

THE STANDARD

A WEEKLY REVIEW OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS.

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FOUR MOS., \$1.00

CONTENTS.

EDITORIALS	1	OBJECT LESSONS	6
THE SOCRATIC METHOD APPLIED—Montague R. Levenson	3	ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS	6
THE RAILROAD QUESTION—E. J. Shriver	3	MICHAEL FLURSCHEIM'S BOOK	7
THE SUBSIDIES—Capt. John Codman	4	LETTERS TO THE EDITOR	7
THE SINGLE TAX IN RHODE ISLAND	4	SINGLE TAX NEWS	8
NEWS OF THE WEEK	5	PERSONAL	9
IS ROMAN CATHOLICISM A MENACE	6	PUBLISHER'S NOTES	9

CALLING TIME.

In its issue of the 30th of December, THE STANDARD will call time on the proposition to reduce its price to one dollar a year. We first sent a circular letter, fully explaining the situation, to every subscriber. We then published the proposition in THE STANDARD, so as to reach every reader who does not subscribe. It was the main part of the proposition that if an aggregate circulation of 25,000 for one year were guaranteed we would change the price on the 1st of January, and make due allowance for the difference in price to all who should subscribe at the present rate after the sending out of the circular, November 25. Inasmuch as the offer to make such an allowance cannot be kept open indefinitely without inviting bankruptcy, we are obliged to fix a date for deciding whether to make the change or not. That date is the 29th of December, and the announcement will be made in the issue of the 30th. Candor requires us to state now that the decision will, in all probability, be adverse. As we have thus far received but 3,720 guarantees it is not probable that the next two weeks will bring the number up to 25,000. But it is due to those who have responded to the proposition, to say that this exceedingly bad showing is in no sense their fault. They have done their share. The average of guarantees from each reader who has taken the trouble to respond is 6.04, which is near enough to the required average of 7 for all practical purposes. But the total number of responses is only 615, out of a possible 3,500. If, therefore, we are obliged to decide against changing the price the responsibility will rest upon those subscribers, nearly five-sixths of the whole, who by neglecting to respond have indicated either opposition or indifference. Two weeks remain to them in which to advise us of their wishes. The polls will close at sundown on the 29th, and the time cannot be extended. All who wish to vote and have lost the blank guarantee sent them with our circular letter will find a blank in the Publisher's Notes on page 9 of this issue, which they may cut out and use. Following is our list of premiums:

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HENRY GEORGE'S LECTURE

—ON—

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PUBLISHED EVERY WEDNESDAY, AT NO. 42 UNIVERSITY PLACE.

VOL. X.

NEW YORK, WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 16, 1891.

No. 24.

THE STANDARD'S CHANGE OF PRICE.—This subject is fully presented on the first page of the cover of this issue, which every subscriber is requested to read. On the 29th of this month we will decide whether or not to reduce the price to \$1 a year. That decision will be based on the number of guarantees that shall have been then received. If the number falls below 25,000 the decision may be adverse; if it falls below 20,000 it probably will be; and if it falls below 15,000 it certainly will be. We are urged to keep the proposition open indefinitely. This we cannot do. When the change is made, we must make good our offer to allow for the difference in price to those who shall have subscribed since our circular issued. If the change were made some weeks hence that would be impossible; we could not afford it. Those who want the price reduced, and who have not yet responded, must do so at once or for ever after hold their peace.

LOGICAL PROTECTION PROGRAMME.—We have it, on the authority of Allen W. Thurman, writing for the December issue of Belford's Magazine, that Governor-elect McKinley intends recommending to the legislature of Ohio the passage of a resolution requesting the other States to apply, with Ohio, to Congress for the submission of an amendment to the Federal Constitution permitting the different States to levy customs duties. This is in accordance with the logic of protectionism. It would give to the farmers of each State their own home market. It would encourage ship-building on the lakes. It would promote manufactures in each protected State, and increase wages there relatively to wages in the other States, just as in the country at large it has increased wages relatively to wages in other countries. It would secure the wool growers of protected Ohio, for example, against competition with the pauper wool growers of free trade Texas. And since foreigners pay tariffs, it would compel the non-protective States to support those that adopted the principle of protection. This programme merits the support of all protectionists, and will secure the support of all those who, like McKinley, are logical and true to their convictions. Free traders would, of course, oppose it. They are so blind that they see not the material benefits of protection, and withal so scrupulous that they object to legislative interference with private trading.

COERCIVE ANARCHY.—Ideal anarchy has been regarded by candid people who have distinguished it from violence, as a social condition in which any other force than that of public opinion has no place. But representative anarchists now endeavor to change this conception by asserting that it is only invasive force to which anarchy is opposed. Hereafter we are to understand that anarchy is consistent with government (for social force other than that of public opinion is government, by whatever name it may be called), but that it is opposed to governmental invasion of private rights. In other words, anarchy, as now defined, is the democratic idea of liberty. It does not abolish government, but it restricts the operations of government to the protection of individual liberty. No one need be part of this government if he prefers not to be; but should he trespass

upon the rights of one who is of it, the government will punish him. And if he joins with others, forming a separate government, the two governments may fight it out. Except that this idea involves that of two or more absolutely independent governments within the same territory, it is hard to see how it differs from the democratic ideal of government that prevails now. But the monks who wasted time and tortured reason in computing the number of feathers on the wings of the Angel Gabriel have had successors in every generation, and the anarchist school of philosophers proves that they have them yet.

NECESSITY FOR A FREE TRADE DEMOCRACY.—There is a disposition to regard Mr. Crisp's election to the Speakership as without political significance. The fact that he is personally opposed to protection, and that some of those who persistently voted for him in caucus are as good free traders as the men who supported Mills, is used to foster this notion. The character of the fusion that made of him its figure-head, the circumstances of his canvass, and the prominent events that preceded and led up to his victory, are ignored. Granted that he is disposed to go as far as Mills could have gone in the direction of free trade. Granted that he is as free to influence tariff legislation according to his views, as Mills would have been. Granted that his personal adherents will oppose protectionism in the Democratic convention. For the sake of the argument, let all this be conceded—it is only for the sake of the argument that it can be—and yet his election was a triumph for the forces that make against free trade in national politics. It was a triumph for Hill, a triumph for Gorman, a triumph for Brice, a triumph for Tammany, a triumph for the reactionary policy represented by Hill, Gorman, Brice, and Tammany, and a defeat of the progressive policy represented by Cleveland and Mills.

For this Mr. Cleveland is in a measure responsible. Refusing to take part in the Ohio campaign, where his aid might have saved the State to Campbell, and entering vigorously into the New York campaign, where it certainly secured the election of Flower, he made an occasion in the Speakership contest to write a letter that left Mills without the benefit of his open support. Had Campbell been elected, free trade sentiment would have been dominant in the Democratic party, and no fusion could have defeated Mills. Had Flower been defeated in New York, the spoils hunting "combine" would have been without its most powerful factors, and the fusion itself would have resolved into its elements. And even after Campbell had lost and Flower had won, had Mr. Cleveland recognized the evil significance of the canvass for Crisp, and thrown the weight of his influence into the contest, the ground lost to progressive tariff reduction in the fall elections would have been more than regained, and the platform and the candidate of the Democratic party would have been already decided upon. The candidate would have been Cleveland, and the platform would have been what Cleveland represents. Moreover, the party would have been armed for the general election with a record in Congress, before which the Republicans would have been driven to inevitable disaster, a record that cannot be hoped for

if the "conservative" course advised and predicted by Crisp newspapers is followed.

So far as Cleveland's retirement is a matter of personal concern, we regard it as of no importance. From the first THE STANDARD has supported Cleveland for what he represents, not for what he is. But he does represent, better by far than any other candidate for the Presidency, what is good and hopeful in the Democratic party; and for this reason we regret the fact, which we cannot ignore, that his chances have been reduced to the minimum.

Nothing remains to Democrats who see the importance, both from a partisan and a patriotic point of view, of arraying the Democratic party against the Republicans respecting the one vital issue of current national politics—protection, but to organize as a party within the party, and insist upon an anti-protection platform and an anti-protection candidate. In doing this, it would be a mistake, as Mr. Shriver says in another column, to tie the fortunes of the organization absolutely to any man. While unyielding as to principles, it must be prepared to compromise upon men; not forgetting, however, that as yet Cleveland is pre-eminently the representative of what its principles should be. Such an organization would be in no sense a third party. It would bear the same relation to the party as a whole that the ring which formed around Mr. Crisp bears to it, except that the ring stands for business in politics, while this organization would stand for principle in politics.

A Free Trade Democracy, led by the Free Trade Congressmen with Mills at their head, is all that can save the Democratic party, and prevent the next Presidential election from becoming a mere scramble for office between politicians to whom politics is a game in which grave public questions have no place, and whose prizes are plunder instead of laurels.

GOOD WORK IN RHODE ISLAND.—The single tax men of Rhode Island, under the leadership of Senator Garvin, of Cumberland, are setting a worthy example. The work they are doing, which is fully reported in another column, cannot be undertaken in most States, but it is peculiarly adapted to the customs of that State. Elsewhere the movement for county option in taxation is better. But in Rhode Island that feature of the agitation is unnecessary. It is already customary there to allow townships to govern themselves. And it is almost certain that when a majority in any township calls for the adoption of the single tax they may secure it.

In this work Senator Garvin and his associates need assistance, and they deserve to receive it. We are not in favor of concentrating upon a single locality, because we do not believe that people in Texas can be interested in a movement confined to Rhode Island, as they would be in a national movement or a local one of their own. This is not to say, however, that it is unwise for the single tax men of Rhode Island to concentrate upon one of their towns. Conditions in that State are such that this is the very best method of pushing the work. And whoever has time to spend there, no matter from what part of the country he hails, or money to contribute in aid of the efforts of those who are working out this plan there, will render good service to the cause everywhere by responding to the call for funds.

One word of caution. The adoption of the single tax in a Rhode Island township will be a good thing for the people of that township, and a good object lesson for people elsewhere. But the great benefits of the single tax cannot be enjoyed when its operation is confined to so small a community as Cumberland, in the midst of a vast community, like that of the United States,

over which protection spreads its blighting shadows. Free trade with all the world is part of the single tax scheme; and any community that is deprived of this freedom is, to that extent, deprived of the single tax. Let our friends of Cumberland therefore be careful not to regard their adoption of the single tax for local purposes as anything more than a step, even for their community. Should they neglect this caution they might predict results that cannot be realized, and pave the way for disappointments that would be charged to the single tax, though really chargeable to the incompleteness of their single tax.

NEW YORK'S DEFECTIVE BALLOT LAW.—

In the Senatorial election case in New York in which Republican ballots were rejected because they contained identifying marks, Judge Barnard, a Democrat, holds that these marks cannot be adjudged to vitiate the ballots until it is proved that each voter knowingly adopted them to identify his vote. There seems to have been proof that party managers had the marks made for purposes of identification, but none that the voters themselves intended them to serve that purpose. The inference was strong that this was their intention, but inference is not proof. This decision, if sustained, makes good what the New York World says, that the present ballot law of New York puts an end to secrecy, freedom, and honesty of elections. It would be more accurate to describe it as having failed to secure secrecy, freedom, and honesty, for these conditions were not enjoyed under the old law.

It was predicted by genuine ballot reformers that the present law would fail in these particulars, and it is worthy of note just now that the failure is due to precisely what they based their prediction upon—the blanket paster and the multiple ballot which Governor Hill forced upon them. With the blanket official ballot, pasters being prohibited, identifying marks could not be made by any one but the voter himself. Their appearance, therefore, would be evidence of his intention sufficient to vitiate his ballot.

WHEELMEN, THEY PAY THE TAX.—

Wheelmen are obliged by the McKinley law to pay much more for bicycles than they are worth. An excellent bicycle can be bought in England for \$60. It can be delivered here for less than \$10, making the actual necessary cost to an American user not more than \$70, for the importer's profit comes out of the English price. And, if it were not for the McKinley law, every one who could afford an expenditure of \$70 might own a bicycle.

But when the wheel arrives, the McKinley law lays upon it a tariff of 45 per cent., to which the importer must add his profit of at least 10 per cent., making 55 per cent., and his custom house expense of say \$3; a total McKinley item on a \$60 wheel of \$36. The bottom price is thereby raised to \$106. It needs no argument to show that many people who would buy a wheel for \$70 cannot afford to buy one for \$106. Thus, wheelmen are kept down in numbers, and thousands of Americans are arbitrarily denied the benefits and enjoyments of bicycling.

In justification it is urged that foreign manufacturers have abandoned or will abandon all hope of competing here with American manufacturers, and that they will build American factories for supplying the American trade. Well, will that cheapen bicycles to American consumers? To the extent to which increased competition operates upon patent monopolies it may, but no further. There will still be an element of cost which consumers must pay that under free trade would not exist. Bicycles cannot be manufactured here

as cheaply as in England. This the protectionist will admit; but he will say that the difference is in wages, English wages being less than American wages. As usual, he is wrong. The labor cost of manufacturing bicycles in England is less than the labor cost here. It is restricted competition, patent rights, and the higher cost of materials that really make American wheels dearer than English wheels. Restricted competition would be in some degree diminished by the establishment of English factories here; so would the monopoly power of patents. But the higher cost of materials would not. And what makes materials higher? The tariff. So the whole tariff system operates to fleece the user of bicycles.

Bicycle organizations have done good work and they are proposing better in the matter of improving roads. But to the wheelman, bicycles are as important as roads. What do these organizations purpose doing in the way of making it possible to get good bicycles for low prices?

And the American manufacturers, what have they to say? Is the 45 per cent. tariff on foreign wheels of sufficient advantage to them over the tariff on their materials to make their advocacy of the tariff system worth their while? Those of them who make superior wheels know that their wheels cost less in labor and are better machines than the English. How is their business improved by a tariff system that compels them to maintain prices that are to multitudes of people absolutely prohibitory?

MORAL SIDE OF THE SINGLE TAX.—As has often been explained, the single tax has both a fiscal and a moral side. It is the best mode of raising public revenues; and it tends to the improvement of social conditions and the establishment of justice by taking for public use what belongs to the public, leaving to individual use what belongs to the individual, and by making it unprofitable to withhold the bounties of nature from anyone. It is as a mode of raising public revenues that it appeals to legislators, through whom the reform must come; but as a social reform it appeals to a great body of the people who, eager for the abolition of injustice, are impatient at the pulling and hauling that are inseparable from practical politics. From these latter we receive frequent complaints that THE STANDARD does not devote more space to the moral side of the question. But since our arrangement with the New Earth, whereby that excellent paper may be taken with THE STANDARD for the price of the latter, there is no excuse for these complaints. The New Earth is wholly devoted to moral agitation along single tax lines, while THE STANDARD is largely devoted to political agitation. The two papers together cover both fields, each of which is important and each full of interest and of opportunities for service.

SPRINGER'S POLICY.—Speaker Crisp has decided to appoint Mr. Springer to the chairmanship of the Committee on Ways and Means. This is in accordance with the expectations of all shrewd observers who watched the contest that culminated in Mr. Crisp's election. Mr. Springer's candidacy for the Speakership was hopeless from the start, and could have had no other object than to secure a leading place for him from the successful candidate in return for his contribution to that candidate's success.

But Mr. Springer's plan of attacking protection in this Congress, as foreshadowed in a World interview, commends itself. He proposes by a series of independent bills to place wool upon the free list, at the same time abolishing the compensating duty on woolen goods, and to place binding twine, cotton ties, and lu m-

ber, with some exceptions, also upon the free list. He does not name the exceptions regarding lumber, and we know of no reasons for making any; but should he succeed in thus amending the tariff laws, a vast stride toward absolute free trade will have been taken. Aside from its radical character, this policy is well calculated to confuse the Republicans in the Senate and about the White House. It is an aggressive policy, and will assail the points of least effective resistance. Should the Republicans defeat it, the country will discipline them, as it did a year ago. Should they attempt to carry off the honors, by themselves assuming to father the measure, free trade as to all these articles will be secured.

But it is doubtful if Mr. Springer can carry the policy through his committee. He little realizes the power of the political Frankenstein which he helped to construct for his party, and with which he must contend when he attempts to identify it with so radical a free trade policy as the one he proposes.

THE SOCRATIC METHOD APPLIED.

There is no method of teaching so thorough and searching as the Socratic.

If those who think that taxes on land values (where the tax does not exceed the value of the "unearned increment") will set to themselves the questions given below, and answer each one before proceeding to the next, they will soon get to a right understanding of the subject:

- Q. What causes a rise in the market price of any commodity?
- Q. What causes a rise in the average price?
- Q. What effect will a rise in the average price of raw products have upon the cultivation of land that was not previously worth cultivating?
- Q. What effect will such a rise have upon the rent of land previously under cultivation?
- Q. What effect will a rise in the average price of raw products have upon importation from districts to import from which was previously too costly to admit of the importer's remuneration?
- Q. How many raw products rise in value compared with manufactured commodities, and yet not rise in price?
- Q. Will such a rise in value occasion a rise in rents, and how?
- Q. How may the rent (economic rent is always here meant) continually increase without any rise of prices?
- Q. Why are the prices of most kinds of raw products higher in densely peopled countries than in countries less densely peopled?
- Q. Why is the reverse the case as to manufactured commodities?
- Q. In what sort of country and among what kinds of people are rents highest, and why?
- Q. In what situations are store and warehouse rents highest?
- Q. What will cause these rents to rise yet higher?
- Q. Why does the merchant, who pays a high rent for his store, generally sell his wares at no higher price than the merchant who keeps the same kind of goods and pays a lower rent?
- Q. If he do not obtain a higher price, does he put up with less profit? If so, why does he do so? and if not, show why not.
- Q. What then may be the cause of a rise in rents?
- Q. Is a rise in the price of raw products such cause? Can such a rise in price be a consequence of a rise in rents?

The person who, freeing himself from the prejudices of his preconceived notions, will quietly and fully reason out the answers to the above questions, will never again commit the error of supposing that a tax on "the unearned increment" can be diffused throughout the community, or even become the property of any but those who alone have just title to it: viz., the recipients of the taxes, i. e.—if they be properly applied—the entire community.

When will our almost valueless common schools feed their pupils upon such useful lessons as the foregoing instead of the nonsense on which so great a portion of the children's time is wasted?

MONTAGUE R. LEVERSON.

THE RAILROAD QUESTION

Mr. Fonda's criticism in a recent STANDARD of a portion at least of what I had to say through your columns about railway management some time ago, I must admit to be a just one on the face of it, principally because I did not express myself clearly enough in saying that certain kinds of railway business have to be done at a loss, in order to be done at all. I should have put it that the class of freight which I had in mind would not stand enough in the way of tolls to meet what would apparently be the cost of the service; and though this is superficially the same thing, in reality it is not. It is a problem that comes under the head of "incidental cost o

production" in economic science, of what are known as "by-products" in ordinary trade. The most common illustration is that of cattle raising, the product of which includes meat, hides, horn, glue from hoofs, etc., none of which alone will in all instances meet the cost of production, and yet that cost cannot by any possible method of bookkeeping be fairly divided so as to charge up against each product its proper proportion. The market for some one of these products (in North America the beef, in South America the hides) usually constitutes the chief inducement to engage in the industry, and the other products are sold "for what the traffic will bear." In the same manner, at our western silver-lead mines, the lead produced being usually more variable in price, is constantly sold at less even than such share of the cost of production as would bear the same ratio to the total cost as does the percentage of lead turned out to the total metallic result (the only possible basis on which the cost could be apportioned), simply because the silver affords a sufficient margin to make the net returns profitable.

The same principle practically applies itself in railroading in the following way. A road is built on the calculation that such and such traffic can be obtained at rates that will at least meet interest and operating expenses, the "fixed charges," which must be incurred to keep the road running at all; and the plant thus once established, it often becomes profitable to increase the receipts by attracting additional business at rates that will not reimburse the actual expense of running the trains on which it is carried—simply because those trains have to be run anyway, and extra receipts are so much "velvet." This is only the case where ownership and operation of the roads are in the same hands, whether it be individual hands or those of the community.

The other objection to my side of the —that it is based too largely on suburban railroading, and that that is essentially a municipal question—loses some of its force when we consider that suburban and municipal traffic together furnish by far the largest passenger receipts, both net and gross, and are, therefore, the more important elements in the passenger department. That we will even run suburban roads as business buildings run elevators, without charge, I do not hesitate to regard as altogether fanciful, and strongly doubt whether it will be done with even municipal lines; but if the latter should come about, it would certainly involve public operation as well as public ownership. It would be ridiculous to have any such policy precede the complete adoption of the single tax, unlimited; for its net result would be simply an increase of rents in the localities so favored; and even after the single tax does come, the complications of the problem—which of several municipalities that are connected by a railroad line is the one whose land values are increased thereby, and should, therefore, defray the cost of its operation—would in practice prove so difficult as to probably defy any reasonable settlement. The temptation is strong, in discussing social questions, to wander off into the ideal and ignore the human prejudices and crystallized institutions that have to be considered in applying the details of a reform; but it is a tendency which cannot be too strongly resisted.

E. J. SHRIVER.

THE SUBSIDIES.

Among the headings adopted by the New York Tribune, calling attention to the various subjects embraced in the postmaster-general's report, we find "Workings of the Postal Aid Act," the term it applies to the subsidy bill passed by the last congress. The nominal purpose of that act was to promote the regular and speedy transportation of foreign mails for the advantage of American commerce. The real purpose was not to "aid the postal service" but to confer a bounty on certain lines of steamships already running, and generally doing a profitable business, but who employed a large lobby in Washington with the object of filching additional profits from the pockets of the people. It was for their "aid" and "encouragement" alone, as is apparent from the President's and Mr. Wanamaker's acknowledgment that there were none to compete with them in the contracts awarded. It is safe to say that none of them will build any more new ships than they would have built in the regular course of their business had no further "postal aid" been conferred upon them. The only new line referred to is one to the Argentine Republic, and which has not yet been built or contracted for. It is one whose bids have not yet been accepted, and although bids for ten lines to Great Britain and the continent, at the rate of \$12,000 for each trip, have been invited, nobody has come to the front. The President naïvely regrets that the so-called Brazilian mail steamship line, through some informality of its bid, is shut out completely from any participation in the plunder. It is rather hard on Brother Thurber, who has expended more money and time than any one else in furthering the nefarious scheme, but it is a just retribution.

So the postmaster-general calls for only \$247,340 for the support of our nautical almshouse for what remains of the fiscal year after March 1, which will, of course, be increased to \$742,020 for the fiscal year which will ensue. It is not a very large sum for people

who are engaged in other occupations to contribute to these beneficiaries, when divided among 63,000,000 people, but it is a nice little sum to swell the wallets of the patriotic beggars. There is every evidence, moreover, that they are not satisfied with this "encouragement," but that, like Oliver Twist, having once got their spoon into the porridge, their insatiate lobby will infest Congress this winter crying for "more." Indeed, Mr. Wanamaker intimates that they ought to have it. But the house of representatives, at least, will decide that they ought to have none at all, for it is fortunately democratic, as its name implies. It will be ruled by the people who own the money, and not by the shipbuilders who desire to steal it.

JOHN CODMAN.

FREE TRADE DEBATE IN BROOKLYN.

At Holmes's Star Theatre, Brooklyn, last Sunday afternoon, Van Buren Denslow and James Macgregor discussed the tariff question, Denslow for protection and Macgregor for free trade. The audience numbered 1,000 people, mostly workmen employed in the diversified industries of Brooklyn.

The debate was under the auspices of District Assembly 220, Knights of Labor, the mixed Assembly District of Long Island.

Mr. Macgregor proved himself more than a match for his adversary, and there was no question in the audience that protection gained nothing from its advocate. An attempt on the part of Mr. Denslow to create prejudice by denouncing Mr. Macgregor as an Englishman, opened the way for Mr. Macgregor to speak of universal brotherhood in a manner that gave him a special advantage throughout the debate.

THE SINGLE TAX LOOMS UP IN RHODE ISLAND.

Under the leadership of State Senator Lucius F. C. Garvin, the single tax men of Rhode Island are concentrating their efforts upon the town of Cumberland for a thorough single tax campaign. It is proposed, if possible, to secure a petition of a majority of the voters of Cumberland to the Legislature asking for power to exempt both personal property and land improvements in that town from all taxation. As local option is customary in Rhode Island, it is believed that the power will be granted if a majority of the voters in the town ask for it. Senator Garvin is positive that if the question should be submitted, not to the "taxpayers," so called, but to the whole electorate, a majority vote would be cast in Cumberland for the single tax. His confidence is well founded, as the following from the Providence Sunday Journal of December 6 shows:

The single tax has to all appearances got complete hold of Cumberland, and from Valley Falls to Cumberland Hill it is the sole topic of conversation, and from present appearances the town would vote affirmatively on the subject if the Legislature will only give them a chance.

The Pawtucket Evening Times of December 3 gives expression to the same local feeling. It says:

Petitions are now in circulation from one end of the town (Cumberland) to the other, in which the State Legislature is requested to permit the town of Cumberland to adopt the single tax system in place of the method of taxation now in use. These petitions are receiving a host of signatures, and there is some reason to believe that Dr. Garvin and his friends will succeed in their purpose.

This is to procure the majority of the signatures of the voters of the town to the petition, then to present the case to the Legislature, stating that the majority of the voters are in favor of the change. This, it is believed, will be done, for every one in the town is talking single tax, and many of those who do not claim to know anything about the question are willing to admit that they should like to see the system given a fair trial.

Such sentiments as these show the trend of popular opinion, and, as one prominent professional man in the town said yesterday, if the interest in the question continues as strong as it is to-day, and the subject is left to the vote of the people in the town, they will be sure to pass it.

It may, therefore, be regarded as within the bounds of possibility that the town of Cumberland will be the first to make the trial of the single tax system.

Senator Garvin, William Barker, Levi H. Turner, of Boston; T. J. Smith, M. D.; William A. McLeod, Esq., of Boston; J. S. Wild, and others are speaking and working to promote the success of the undertaking. A general meeting of the single tax men of the State, for the purpose of obtaining advice, assistance, and funds, is in contemplation, and help from other States is solicited.

Senator Garvin, writing on the subject from Lonsdale, says:

Perhaps in no part of the United States is the single tax so live an issue as in the town of Cumberland, where I reside. To-night (December 11th) the sixth of a series of public meetings is to be held to consider the advisability of this town's exempting from taxation personal property and improvements. Twenty-five petitions are in circulation asking the General Assembly, which meets in January, to permit the electors of the town to vote this spring for and against the single tax. Since local option is exercised on many questions in this State, it is believed that if a large proportion of the voters sign these petitions their request will be granted. The signatures already run into the hundreds, and represent all parties and all classes. The total vote of the town last April for State Senator was 1,080, the number of qualified electors being about 1,400.

The present rate of taxation is \$9 on each \$1,000 of ratable estate. To derive the same revenue by a tax upon land values the rate would need to be increased to \$35 per \$1,000. The population of the town is employed

chiefly in cotton factories and a rolling mill. The single tax has been under discussion here for several years. About two-thirds of the land, reckoned according to its value, is owned by non-residents. For these reasons there is no doubt that, if the question is submitted to a vote of the whole electorate, a majority will favor the single tax.

From now until the first of February is the most important time for holding meetings and securing signatures to the petitions.

For the purpose of effectively carrying on the work a fund of about \$300 is requisite in addition to local contributions.

MAYOR PINGREE FOR GOVERNOR.

Howard M. Holmes, of Detroit, reports that Mayor Hazen S. Pingree is a candidate for the republican nomination for governor of Michigan. He says:

There are obstacles in the way of his nomination, but it is to be hoped that they are not insurmountable. He is an available candidate for the republican party, because of his wealth and his popularity in Detroit, a democratic city. If elected governor, he would use his great influence towards the enactment of a single tax law. I have no doubt that Michigan would be the first in the Union to make a trial of single tax principles. The people are well educated in those principles, and are ready for a change. All we need for success is a motive power, such as a friendly governor could give. That would lead to organization and the concentration of our strength.

Although as ardent a free trader as any of THE STANDARD's readers, I could conscientiously work for Pingree's election, even on the republican ticket; and I believe that all of the single tax men of Michigan would rally to his support.

LET US HAVE PEACE.

At the recent dinner at New York to Frank B. Carpenter, the artist, on the occasion of the shipment of his new picture, "International Arbitration," to the Queen of England, ex-Minister Andrew D. White presided, and among the guests were Robert Collyer, Colonel Ingersoll, Daniel Dougherty, Eastman Johnson, John Swinton, Henry George, Colonel Cockerill, and Arthur Bowers. In introducing Mr. George the chairman said, according to the report in the Press:

We have with us one who is, perhaps, more admired and more feared than any other man within the borders of the United States; one who has made, perhaps, one of the greatest literary successes of this century. Whatever may be said of his politics—whether you like or dislike it, whether you worship it or detest it—there is no man who will not say that Henry George has had his heart in his work. I offer as a toast, "Arbitration and the Good Time Coming," and I ask Mr. George to respond.

Mr. George said:

I am glad in this way to pay my respects to Mr. Carpenter. I like that picture. Even if I knew not whose were the faces, it is one of the pictures that I would like to look at, as a man in the Guildhall at Amsterdam looks at those old paintings of the Dutch masters—portraits of men dead and gone, and yet men who, on the canvas, shall live for all time. So will these. But it is more to honor and to celebrate the spirit that that canvas is to remain long after he who put brush to it is dead and gone. It is the spirit of arbitration, the spirit of peace and of good will to men.

It is enough to make a man tired—it makes me, at least—to read in the newspapers of to-day of the launching of another great steel-clad monster of destruction. By the great Republic, by the nation that of all nations that has the power and ought to have the will to lead in the republics of the world, in the parliament of man, what do we want of iron and steel-clad cruisers? What do we want with their great guns? We are 60,000,000 of people on a continent where we have no peer; we are so situated that we would have to kick any great nation of the world into warfare with us. What is it? Simply the thought of the people. Simply what the poets have said to them, what the artists have painted, what the preachers have taught. After all, the thing that moves the world is thought. After all, his work lives longest who puts into the minds of men a noble idea; and I think we can congratulate Mr. Carpenter in having done something toward that.

Arbitration! How can we be civilized until war is done? Arbitration is the slender thread carried by a kite across the chasm of which Dr. Collyer told us. Would we make a cable? Would we bridge the separation that I think we are all beginning to look on as a misfortune? Would we combine not only Canada, but all the English speaking people of the world together? Then the cable that we must build is the cable of free trade—a cable that will combine together the interests of all our peoples; that will make our political divisions things of no more moment than are the political divisions between our States. And I hope—though perhaps it is more than one can hope—that our friend may live to make a third picture; a picture that will stand for all time and will show the sweeping away of relics of barbarism—the signing of the bill to repeal our tariff laws.

REAL ESTATE TAXATION.

Among the communications received by the New York Tax Reform association, which favors the abolition of personal property taxation, is one from Prof. H. M. MacCracken, of the University of the City of New York, who writes:

Since it was my lot in past years to lecture upon political economy, and to take a lively interest in civics, I am quite inclined to give an opinion on your platform, and that a favorable one. I regard the system of municipal taxes in most of the states with which I am acquainted as inexpedient from an economic point of view, and very objectionable from an ethical standpoint. Matters would be greatly improved if your platform could be adopted and faithfully carried out.

BRITISH AGRICULTURAL CONFERENCE.

Last Thursday the rural conference opened in London. It is reported to have represented with absolute fidelity the spirit of the agricultural element of Great Britain. The London correspondent of the Philadelphia Ledger writes of it:

No assemblage of supposed representative men ever held in England has displayed such envenomed hostility to parsons and landowners. Delegates boasting themselves as persistent parson fighters, and denouncing Squire tyranny, were cheered to the echo; and their scornful allusions to the patronizing airs of the clergy towards rural inhabitants were keenly relished. An occasional delegate feebly admitted that he had met a liberal landlord or an open-minded cleric, but the entire sympathy of the conference was reserved for the motto, "Down with the Church and the Landlord."

The speakers and the bulk of the delegates were fluent and forcible in speech, obviously not Hodge in the rough, but rather Hodge trained to spout in dissenting conventicles.

Mr. Schnadhorst, the Liberal party leader, has done nothing more clever during his career as a wire-puller than his gleaning from the mass of inchoate intelligence of rural England these men, so strongly radical, and setting them up as representative voices. But it would be misleading to infer from the character of the conference that the rural poor have deserted the Church en masse, or have become infused with political designs against the squirearchy. The conference, while indicating clearly and actively an existent force to be accounted with in the coming elections, owes its greatest importance to its foreshadowing the future agricultural policy. When the spirit of the delegates permeates the electorate, the hereditary privileges of landlordism and churchism will vanish.

IT STANDS OR FALLS WITH LIBERTY.

Apropos of the election of McKinley in Ohio, the Toledo Sunday Journal says that either free trade is right and just or protection is; and if free trade, "not the election of fifty McKinleys can change the truth of the situation," or finally determine the issue. I conclude with this eloquent passage:

The friends of commercial liberty need not falter nor flag. If, as they firmly believe, the doctrine to which they adhere is right, they are firmly entrenched and will ultimately triumph. It is not a question of policy nor transitory success. The issue joined is a part of liberty, and, so sure as liberty triumphs, so surely will this.

EIGHTEENTH CENTURY PROTECTION.

It is a pity that the buckle makers of England, when shoe strings were substituted for buckles, did not understand the American system of making wealth by taxing it. How easy, by putting a protective tariff on shoe strings, to have forced the continued use of buckles. But this was a century ago and light had not yet dawned. The buckle manufacturers were driven to the necessity of depending upon the mere favor of the rich. Sydney says:

Strings came into fashion, and consequently a large class of ingenious artisans were compelled to suffer the loss of their usual employment. In 1791 a deputation of master bucklemakers from the towns of Birmingham, Walsall and Wolverhampton obtained an audience of the Prince of Wales (afterward George IV.), at Carlton House, where they presented a petition setting forth the distressed situation of thousands who had been engaged in the different departments of bucklemaking, consequent upon the fashion which was then so prevalent of wearing strings. The prince promised not only to wear buckles on his own shoes but to order the members of his household to do the same.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

DOMESTIC.

Mr. Harrison sent his message to Congress on Wednesday. He intimates that another may shortly follow on the Chilian question unless Chili responds in proper fashion touching the murderous assault upon our sailors. Mr. Harrison defends the McKinley law, the Pension Bureau, and Mr. Porter's census. He suggests the creation of a commission to take care that voters are not denied the suffrage, and deplores the movement toward the election of Presidential electors by Congressional districts. A new commercial treaty with Germany is announced.

It is believed that H. L. Norcross, a young note broker of Boston, has been identified as the man that killed himself in attempting to blow up Russell Sage.

Wolcott Balestier, a brilliant young American writer, died of typhoid fever at Dresden.

It is asserted that Mr. Springer will be named chairman of the Ways and Means Committee of the House. Mr. Springer advocates the passage by the House of bills putting various articles on the free list, but is opposed to the passage at this session of a general tariff bill.

FOREIGN.

The radical Left has triumphed in the Norway elections to the Storting (Parliament). This means, probably, direct taxation, manhood suffrage, a move toward a closer union with Sweden.

Dr. Welti, President of Switzerland, has resigned because the people voted against his scheme to purchase for the State the Swiss Central Railway.

British troops have had a sharp conflict with tribesmen on the edge of the Pamir, in Central Asia, near the British Indian frontier. A British fort was captured and recaptured and many tribesmen were killed. The affair is significant, as it is believed to be the outcome of recent Russian aggression, and may lead to war between England and Russia.

Mr. Gladstone declared at the National Liberal Federation banquet in

London, December 11, that the labor question had become about as important as the home rule question. The project of organizing the rural laborers was the most important now before the British public. He advocated county councils; the purchase of allotments, in order that those who so long had tilled the land for others might profit by it themselves; reform of the land laws, including the abolition of entail and facilitation of transfers. He spoke cautiously on the eight-hour question.

There was a violent scene in the French Chamber, growing out of a debate on the question of Church and State. M. de Cassagnac called the President of the Chamber a liar. The government was sustained by a majority of only twenty.

IS ROMAN CATHOLICISM A MENACE?

Whether or not Roman Catholicism is a menace to American institutions, as the know-nothings used to teach and many still suppose, or a religious association which allows its members freely to exercise their own judgment in political matters, as we are inclined to believe, depends upon the accuracy with which Archbishop Corrigan defined the authority of the Pope, when he used the following language:

The whole matter is very simple. If Father Ducey had thought for an instant of the character of the encyclical he would have avoided the error he committed. He seems for the moment to have lost sight of the fact that the Holy Father is the teacher and every Catholic must regard him as the supreme earthly authority. The Holy Father having advanced in the encyclical the doctrine of private property in land, it became the duty of every one in the Church to accept it unquestioningly.

Now, in discussing the matter Father Ducey alluded to the Holy Father as "A" and to some one else as "B," and so on. The other gentlemen who were interviewed simply said in effect: "There is nothing for us to do but to accept what has been advanced by the Holy See. We have settled that for us." Now there is no other view to be taken, no matter what any man may write. It is just like a well established doctrine laid down in the Holy Scriptures, and it is to be followed just as closely and unquestioningly by all those who believe in the Holy Church.

If this is true, no man can be at once a good Catholic and a good American citizen.

The London Tablet says it is not true. Edward Osgood Brown, a Catholic layman of Chicago, agrees with the Tablet. A Catholic paper in Philadelphia is so shocked by the language that almost in terms it doubts its authenticity. Dr. Brann, however, stands up sturdily for the archbishop's idea, as do Catholic papers in New York.

Do Catholics generally understand that they are bound as Archbishop Corrigan says they are?

F. G. Anderson, of Jamestown, N. Y., who, though not a Catholic, says he thinks as much of that church as of any other, and that he has nothing against Catholics, some of whom are his best friends, while he regards the Pope as a good and honorable man, writes:

I have had conversations with active and intelligent Catholics concerning the Pope's encyclical. They don't seem to think the Pope's utterances on the land question a part of their religion, or that their consciences ought to be bound thereby. One said: "It's the Pope's opinion. If God means and wills that the land shall be the common property of all men, the Pope cannot by any means, or any possible way, alter or nullify that fact, for God is immeasurably higher than the Pope." Nor do I think that the Catholic Church has had the wrongness or rightness of private property in land by the Pope decided for her for all time, for isn't it possible that the next Pope might hold to the contrary; might believe that private property in land is wrong; and if he did, wouldn't his faith or belief be as infallible and entitled to as much respect and adherence as the belief of Leo XIII.? If not, why not?

P. M. Buckley, a Catholic, of Utica, N. Y., writes:

Every instructed Catholic who understands the single tax knows that it is in strict harmony with Catholic doctrine, while all of that faith who have examined the nature of private property in land know that it is diametrically opposed to Catholic teaching (the opinion of Bishop Corrigan to the contrary notwithstanding). The church teaches that God created the earth for man; private property in land hands it over to a few to which the masses must pay tribute for the privilege of living on it. The same authority says the same cause which deprives more than 90 per cent. of all the people born of any right to breathe the air or tread the land of their birth at the present time is forcing innocent youth and old age into the grave and the poor house, and men and women into the brothel and the prison. In so far as it is responsible for these results, private property in land is opposed to every established rule of the Catholic Church. Under these circumstances to tell Catholics that they are in duty bound to submit to a system that produces so much human misery and degradation is absurd and ridiculous in the extreme.

Though God commanded man to earn his bread by the sweat of his brow, our present laws compel him to get some fellow creature's permission before he can obey the divine command.

The church also impresses upon the minds of its members that murder is one of the sins that cries to heaven for vengeance. I would remind Catholics in general, and Irish Catholics in particular, that private property in land enabled a few landlords to murder one million five hundred thousand of their country people by the horrible death of starvation during the famine years in Ireland of 1847 and 1848.

THE RIGHT OF WAY.

From the Globe.

Tariff reform has the right of way on the democratic track. The people demand, first of all, that this cause shall be vigorously pushed on.

OBJECT LESSONS.

This department contains facts, gathered from all parts of the world, that are of current interest and permanent value, and illustrate social and political problems. Information from trustworthy sources is solicited.

HOW THE VALUES GROW.

Danville (Va.) Register.

Twenty years ago a tract containing thirteen acres of land in a suburb of Atlanta was sold for \$5,000. Three years later it changed hands at \$9,000. Three or four years later it was sold for \$13,000. The next time it brought \$30,000, and to-day it is worth \$35,000 without improvements.

EXEMPTING INDUSTRIES FROM TAXATION.

Some years ago Allentown, Penn., obtained several industries by promising to exempt them from taxation for a number of years. No one had a right to make such a promise, and the authorities propose to enforce the law and tax the properties in question. It looks now as though the citizens who took upon themselves the responsibility of exempting the industries from taxation will have to pay the taxes out of their own pockets. We respectfully suggest for their consideration that the single tax would exempt all industries from taxation for all time; and that it would not compel anyone to make good the exemption except the landowners whose land is increased in value by the presence of the industries, and only in proportion to such increase.

FRUITS OF ENTERPRISE.

The Kansas City Star reports this interesting instance, illustrating the well-known fact that wealth is plentiful in this country for those who are enterprising enough to go for it:

Miss Maggie Smith, a stenographer at Guthrie, Okla., discovered that Keokuk, chief of the Iowa Indians, was living on land in the new country that had not been allotted to him. She at once entered the line at the land office and having filed on the land, went to take possession of it. The chief will be ejected. This claim has a brick house and fine barns on it, and is worth over \$4,000.

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS.

JUSTICE IS THE AIM.

A. M. Rich, of Sebago Lake, Me., writes that he is not as enthusiastic for the single tax as he would be if he could see all in it that is claimed for it, viz., the abolition of poverty; and he asks if it could hinder a Barnum from getting together the greatest show on earth and becoming a millionaire, or an A. T. Stewart from accumulating a fortune, or prevent the physician from realizing as much from a day's services as many of his neighbors realize from a month's toil.

The single tax movement does not solicit Mr. Rich's enthusiasm on his terms. It does not aim to deprive any man of the full value of his services to those who deal with him, a value that can be best determined by what they willingly pay him; it aims to remove the legalized obstructions that enable some men to compel others to pay more than they are willing to—in other words, laws that arbitrarily make trades unequal.

The single tax would not hinder a Barnum from getting together the greatest show on earth; it would remove all the legal barriers that are in his way. And if the result of his efforts were worth a million dollars or more to those who patronized him, they would reward him by making him a millionaire. We would interfere neither with the effort nor the reward. In free conditions, whatever a Barnum might receive, however wealthy he might grow, no one would be impoverished.

The same remarks apply to men like Stewart, and to physicians. Their individual earnings, however great, the single tax would leave to them. It is only the wealth that comes by means of special privileges, conferring power to take the wealth of others without equivalent, that the single tax would assail.

So long as Mr. Rich hopes to equalize possessions, regardless of the value of service, he cannot be a single tax man. When he concludes that justice is the thing most to be desired, he will see that the single tax offers the only practicable method of realizing his hopes.

CAUSE OF INCREASED LAND VALUES.

Robert White, of Buffalo, asks: A piece of ground nets an annual rent of \$100 when the current rate of interest is ten per cent., and its selling price is \$1,000. If interest fell to five per cent., other conditions remaining the same, would not the selling price double? And if so, is not the increased value of land due to a decline in interest rather than to improvement?

In the circumstances supposed, the selling price of the land would double. The annual income would remain at \$100, and if the land still sold for \$1,000, an investor could receive ten per cent. from this investment, while from any other he would receive only five per cent. But this is impossible. All things considered, equal investments yield equal returns. On the face of the statement, the increased selling value of the land is not due to improvement. It is due solely to decline in the rate of interest. But the annual value has not increased at all; rent, the basis of selling value, is exactly what it was before.

PRESIDENTIAL ELECTORS.

A correspondent asks if it is true that Michigan has adopted a plan of choosing presidential electors by Congressional districts. It is true.

THE QUESTION SETTLED.

The New York Sun has settled the controversy regarding the possibilities of tin production in the United States, by stating, on the authority of Eli Perkins, that within a year the Harney Peak mines can produce enough block tin to break the market. What a pity that Baron Munchausen is dead. If he were alive the Sun might produce him to vouch for the veracity of Mr. Perkins.

MICHAEL FLÜRSCHHEIM'S BOOK.*

How badly equipped Mr. Flürschheim is for serious economic investigation may be inferred from his elementary blunders. For instance, at page 51, in analyzing the prices of commodities, he includes rent. That in doing this he conflicts with all economists of standing does not necessarily discredit him, but it does discredit him to do it without an effort to fortify his position. It is a careless assumption, implying alike ignorance of the standard literature of the science he undertakes to teach, and incapacity for accurate analysis.

A convincing illustration of Mr. Flürschheim's cloudiness of mental vision appears on page 202, where in the same paragraph he makes two utterly inconsistent statements as to the effect of a land value tax. After saying that "if a tenant pays £100 rent and £30 rates, he will have to pay £130 rent when the landlord pays the rates," he asserts that "it is only in its effects on unused land that taxation of ground rents would benefit tenants, for this land would be thrown into the market and would force down rents, as the landlords could no longer afford to keep it idle." How the owners of used land could keep their ground rents up, so as to extract both rent and taxes from the tenant, when in the same community the owners of unused land were throwing it upon the market at reduced prices, Mr. Flürschheim does not explain.

A teacher who approaches his subject as ignorantly and thoughtlessly as these blunders of Mr. Flürschheim indicate that he does, can hardly be expected to reach conclusions worthy the respect of studious and thoughtful readers. Nor does he. His remedy for social misery seems, for he nowhere definitely proposes a remedy, to be the repugnant one of making the State a universal landlord: and his method, the buying up of individual titles.

Having found to his own satisfaction that interest would disappear with the abolition of land monopoly, he indicates a scheme of paying with bonds, the interest on which would not only decline in effect as the value of land advanced, but would also actually decline with the disappearance of interest in general. Incidentally, he naively warns landlords who might oppose the scheme that their compensation individually is to depend upon the withdrawal of their opposition.

This scheme proceeds from a theory that interest on capital exists merely because capital devoted to the purchase of land will secure rent. Inasmuch as a capitalist may invest in land which yields a certain return, therefore, argues Mr. Flürschheim, the capitalist will not invest in productive industry unless that will yield a similar return: and if land and special privileges similar in character be removed from the field of investment, the original cause of interest and the only barrier to free borrowing will disappear. This is, indeed, putting the cart before the horse. A little clear thinking will reveal the truth that interest, instead of being regulated by rent, regulates the capitalized value of land, and that it has no other relation to land values except as wages have.

To illustrate: Suppose that a given piece of land will yield 10 a year as rent: then (eliminating disturbing factors), if ordinary interest on capital is 10 per cent. the land will sell for 100, since 100 invested in that way will yield 10 annually, or as much as the same amount invested in other ways. But if interest is 5 per cent., land yielding 10 will sell for 200, since 200 invested in that way will yield as much as the same amount invested in other ways. If we admit the disturbing factors, the land will sell for more than 200 when interest is 5 per cent., and for more than 100 when interest is 10 per cent., because the security of the investment and the probability of increase in value make this kind of property more desirable on the whole than products of labor which are less secure and in value more stable.

The way to determine whether or not interest is natural is to eliminate borrowing and assume free conditions, in which every one has equal natural opportunities to produce, and absolutely owns what he produces. In such conditions, the man who owned capital in the present would be better off than the man who, though able to produce it on the same terms that applied to his neighbor, owned none. The former could proceed at once to utilize his capital for the satisfaction of his desires; the latter would be obliged to forego the satisfaction of his desires until he could produce the necessary capital. If now we introduce the idea of borrowing, the second man could borrow from the first, only on condition, charity excluded, of paying for the advantage which he would gain and the first would lose. If the second offered less than the value of this advantage, the first would retain the advantage; if the first demanded more, the second would make his own capital, or what is essentially the same thing, others under the spur of competition would make it for him.

Until it can be shown that the use of capital by its owner confers no advantage—that the manufacturer of wine who has only new wine in stock would, in free conditions, receive as high wages for current work as the manufacturer who has accumulated a stock of old; that the newspaper which is paid for in advance would be no more profitable than the newspaper that gets its dues at the end of the year; that the truckman who uses but one horse would earn as much with the same labor as the truckman who uses two; that the storekeeper who displays a small stock would realize as much for the same effort as the storekeeper who displays a larger one—the doctrine of interest must stand. Above all things is it certain that interest cannot be argued out of political economy by any such transparent fallacy as that it has its origin in the private ownership of rent.

Men might lend wealth that they had reserved for consumption, without requiring interest. This would be either an act of neighborly kindness, or for the purpose of having the wealth preserved. But they would not lend capital unless they could receive for it an approximation to the advantage its use by themselves would yield. Thus, a householder might store his surplus furniture, and pay for the care of it; but a furniture dealer would

lend his stock only on condition that he received for it what, over and above wages, he could earn with it.

The free lending of wealth (as distinguished from capital) which the borrower would transform into capital, would undoubtedly have a depreciative effect upon the rate of interest; but there would never be enough lending of this kind to greatly affect interest. Mr. Flürschheim's notion to the contrary is based upon an assumption that large fortunes would persist independently of the industry of their owners. In free conditions this could not be. Such fortunes, no longer buttressed with special privileges, would constantly tend to dissipation. The continued possession of wealth would be inseparable from continued activity, and no one would have much more than he required for consumption, and no more than he required for his business. But the man with capital would always earn higher wages with the same effort than the man without it.

In point of literary workmanship Mr. Flürschheim's book is as defective as it is in more important respects. It is not always dignified, the illustrations are forced, the arrangement is slovenly, and the style is wearisome.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

A. A. Orcutt, of Rutland, Vt., writes, apropos of Colonel Ingersoll's peculiar international bookkeeping, recently commented on by THE STANDARD: Colonel Ingersoll, in his talk about steel rails, leaves out one very important item, cost.

Now, if "we open the books," we shall find that the person who produced steel rails has consumed wealth in doing so. And it is fair to say, as he refuses to sell steel rails at their actual value, or what they can be bought for in the open markets of the world, which, as Mr. Ingersoll puts it, is \$25, that he has consumed other wealth to the amount of \$25 in producing a ton of steel rails. So, the person who produced steel rails has consumed wealth to the amount of \$25, and produced a ton of steel rails worth \$25. United States credit by one ton of steel rails, \$0.00. And we find that the person who bought steel rails has paid for a ton of steel rails \$30, and received a ton of steel rails worth \$25, actual value. Which leaves the United States no better off than before the ton of rails was produced, and leaves the person who has purchased rails \$5 out of pocket.

Had the rails been purchased from a producer in England, the cost of production would have been put upon England and not the United States, and the purchaser would have paid \$25 for a ton of steel rails worth \$25, actual value, and have had left to himself the five dollars, instead of having had to pay it to the producer of rails for no value received.

W. B. Addington writes from St. Louis: It has occurred to me for some time that it would do the cause of the single tax good to have another national conference. I think it would wake up the enthusiasm of single tax men, besides attracting attention of the people and press of the country, if for nothing more than to show them that our cause is not dead, but growing.

I would suggest the time—the World's Fair year. The place, St. Louis. Thousands will go West and from the West at that time. St. Louis is central, and single tax men from the South, West, and Southwest in going to the Fair will go through St. Louis, while those from the East, Northwest, and Northeast can get their tickets almost as cheap, if not just as cheap, to St. Louis as to Chicago. If these cannot, the fare at this time from Chicago to St. Louis will be nominal.

The objections to Chicago for the conference are that it will be crowded with visitors who will be so interested and excited in seeing the Fair that the conference will be lost sight of by the public. Men will go to the Fair and give themselves three or four days to see "it all." The press notices of the conference will not be so much noticed and in very many cases not even read, in the excitement of seeing the sights. The chances of getting a hall in Chicago at that time will be fewer and the charges higher, because harder to get. In holding this conference we want as much publicity given it as possible, to attract the public attention. These are my reasons for the time and place. Let us hear from our single tax friends over the country on this subject.

E. J. Shriver, New York, writes: May I have a line or two to say a word of praise and with it mingle a little criticism? In the first place, the reply that you made in this week's issue to Mr. Root is, without exception, the clearest brief statement of the effect of taxing land values that I have ever seen. In the second place, I must protest against your qualified commendation of the Emperor William, for certainly all the news we get of his particularly silly performances points to the conclusion that he is a crank of the variety too stupid to be dangerous in private life, but who may make a good deal of trouble in his position. But the principal thing that I want to say in this letter is to differ with your conclusions on the result of the Speakership contest. To my mind that seems to have been a victory by the Hill-Gorman element, it is true, but not a victory for them: a tactical victory won by their superior adroitness in seizing upon the conditions of the moment, and bringing into alliance the sentiment which balked radical free trade, and the feeling among so many Congressmen that Mr. Mills was not the most available man from a purely parliamentary point of view.

In a very minor degree it signified genuine opposition to Cleveland, and still less to the cause which he represents: and the loose bond of opposition to Mills will have but little power of cohesion in the Presidential nomination—with the force of popular opinion pressing our way as it is—unless we repeat the same mistake that was made in the Speakership fight. That mistake was in insisting that Mills so personified the issues involved that no compromise was possible: and so we drove off such good free traders as Springer and his friends. In the same way, we are in danger of falling into the error of exalting the leader above his banner in the next struggle. Much as our side owes to Cleveland, we should insist upon success of the principles rather than the man, and by so doing we will stand a better chance of getting both. We should give clear notice to the enemy that we will not vote for even a half way protectionist Democrat; but on the other hand, we should not declare that there is but one man in America who is free from that imputation.

* Rent, Interest, and Wages: or, the Real Bearings of the Land Question. Private Rent the Mother of Interest, the Cause of Commercial Depressions, and Social Misery. By Michael Flürschheim. London: William Reeves, 185 Fleet street, E. C.

SINGLE TAX NEWS.

The underlying principle of the single tax—that the earth belongs equally to all, and that the best way to secure substantial justice is to tax the occupant an amount equal to the yearly value of the land—is sound.—*Journal of the Knights of Labor*, September 24, 1891.

We have no hesitation in declaring our belief that the ideal taxation lies in the single land tax, laid exclusively on the rental value of land, independent of improvements.—*New York Times*, January 10, 1891.

The best and surest subject of taxation is the thing that perforce stays in one place that is land.—*New York Sun*, August 26, 1891.

Every one of these taxes [on commodities and buildings] the ostensible taxpayer—the man on the assessor's books—shifts to other shoulders. The only tax he cannot shift is the tax on his land values.—*Detroit News*, November 1, 1891.

The Bee does not say that it will never be a full-fledged single tax advocate. It believes in it in theory now; it pauses only on the threshold of doubt as to the expediency under existing circumstances.—*Sacramento (Cal.) Bee*.

SINGLE TAX LEAGUE OF THE UNITED STATES.

NATIONAL COMMITTEE,
42 UNIVERSITY PLACE, New York, Dec. 15, 1891.

The National committee is circulating a petition asking the United States house of representatives to appoint a special committee to make inquiry into and report upon the expediency of raising all public revenues by a single tax upon the value of land, irrespective of improvements, to the exclusion of all other taxes, whether in the form of tariffs upon imports, taxes upon internal productions, or otherwise. It will send blank petitions on application to any address, and single tax men are urged to obtain petitions and solicit signatures as a most convenient and effective way of starting the discussion of our principles.

It has also taken up the newspaper work of the Memphis committee and is supplying news companies with single tax matter for their ready prints and plates.

Subscriptions to this committee's fund remain as reported last week, viz:

Cash contributions for week ending December 15 are as follows:	
L. Odenheimer, Philadelphia, Penn.	\$1 00
Cash contributions previously acknowledged	\$1,061 17
Total	\$1,062 17

The enrollment now stands as follows:

Reported last week	113,453
Signatures received since last report	375
Total	113,828

THE PETITION CLOSES JANUARY 1. HURRY IN THE SIGNATURES.

GEO. ST. JOHN LEAVENS, Secretary

NEW YORK.

The Economic Class met at 70 Lexington avenue last Wednesday night. The subject was the definition of labor. At a previous meeting the class had tentatively agreed to define this term as "Man's efforts to satisfy his desires," and the object on this occasion was to determine, after an examination of the works of economic writers, whether or not to adopt that definition permanently. It was found that Walker describes labor as the second great agent in the production of wealth. This was regarded as no definition at all. Henry Fawcett describes it as fashioning the materials supplied by nature, arranging them in those situations in which they are required, and rendering them in every respect suited to satisfy the wants of life. This was accepted as a fair description, in harmony with the class definition, but not a suitable definition. Perry was reported as including among laborers all persons who put forth personal efforts in view of a return service and for the sake of it. This was not acceptable, for it was seen that Robinson Crusoe, though a laborer, would be excluded by it, since his efforts were not put forth in view of a return of service, nor for the sake of it, but for the sake of his own product, and in view of that, Mill's classification of labor as productive and unproductive was not favored. George's definition, "All human exertion in the production of wealth," was regarded as in harmony with the class definition, "Man's efforts to satisfy his desires," and the latter was adopted. It was suggested that a man in dancing would put forth effort to satisfy his desires, but it was finally agreed that the definition is to be considered with reference to the field of inquiry—the production of wealth, and that efforts in the production of wealth is to be understood.

The subject at the meeting to-night is the definition of Capital. The definition tentatively agreed upon was "Combination [of land and labor], things that aid man in satisfying his desires." The class are to examine Walker, Ricardo, Henry Fawcett, Perry, Adam Smith, George, and John Stuart Mill, with a view to determining whether this is a true definition.

At the annual election for officers of the Manhattan Single Tax Club, William McCabe was unanimously elected president, with Jerome O'Neil for vice-president, A. J. Steers, secretary, and John Brown, treasurer. Board of Directors: Benjamin Doblin, George Brunswick, G. W. Everett, W. H. Faulhaber, and T. F. Powers.

PENNSYLVANIA.

George E. Chase writes from Philadelphia: At the Sunday evening meeting of the Single Tax Society, December 6, Aaron Hand opened with an explanation of the effects of landlordism; Mr. Blau followed on methods of reform; Mr. Hetzel on overproduction, and Mr. Callingham on freedom as the only remedy. Mr. Atkinson read a letter from Judge Fellows. Mr. Horan made some practical suggestions as to work for 1892, and Messrs. Hetzel, Atkinson and Hand discussed the feasibility of the movements proposed.

On Tuesday evening the society held its regular monthly social meeting, at which light refreshments were served by the ladies.

At the regular meeting, Thursday evening, Mr. Atkinson proposed that the club concentrate its efforts in one of our Congressional districts for the purpose of electing a single tax man. The subject was discussed by Messrs. Shoemaker, Hetzel, Stephens, Roller, and Atkinson. Other subjects were brought up, and a protectionist held forth on the beauties of protection,

while a member of the Farmers' Alliance spoke in favor of the single tax, Bellamy's system, and the sub-treasury scheme. Mr. Atkinson and Mr. Hetzel exposed the fallacies of protection and socialism, and showed how the single tax would abolish poverty and paupers, including landlords.

The Sunday afternoon meetings at Kensington Reform Club and the Liberal League were completely successful. At the League I. L. Shoemaker spoke on the subject of good city government, and made a strong argument in favor of the single tax. A lively discussion followed, full of wit and humor, and bristling with good points in favor of the speaker's arguments. In closing Mr. Shoemaker made a ringing speech amidst much enthusiasm in the audience.

ILLINOIS.

Warren Worth Bailey writes from Chicago: At the last meeting a large crowd was gathered in the expectation of hearing protection defended by one of its friends, no less a light in the Republican firmament than the Hon. Stephen A. Douglas, son of the illustrious Senator of that name, and Mayor Washburne's city prosecutor. But the crowd waited in vain the appearance of the doughty champion of restriction and scarcity, and no explanation of his absence was vouchsafed. Perhaps he had heard of the fate of other venturesome heroes of high taxes, and deemed discretion the better part of valor; yet he told me when I asked him to address us that he was not afraid to face the free trade buzz saw. However, he didn't do it, and those who came out with the expectation of royal fun were disappointed. They missed the treat anticipated, but in its stead had another quite as good, though of different quality. This was the address of the Rev. Charles E. Garst, of Japan.

Mr. Garst happened to be present, and was asked to step into the breach left by the failure of Mr. Douglas, and he kindly consented to do so, giving us an account of the economic conditions of Japan that was highly interesting and instructive. He showed how the land laws and the system of taxation in that country were operating, and had been operating for generations in degrading and actually starving the people. The masses are always on the verge of starvation. Their staple food is rice and radishes, with a little fish now and then. Meat they do not have. Their bodies are thus impoverished, and they are incapable of strong exertion, either mental or physical. Their frames are stunted, and certain tendencies to disease mark the effects of insufficient nutrition.

Yet Japan is a fruitful country. It is rich in minerals, coal, iron, gold, silver, asbestos, and copper; it has fine quarries and extensive forests; the soil is productive, and there are other natural advantages which add to the attractions of this gem of the Orient. But in Japan, as in America and Europe, labor is fenced out of the land. It is crowded into the cities away from the soil, and bids against itself for the opportunity of employment, forcing wages down to the starvation limit, and rendering life an almost unbearable burden to millions.

Happily, however, the single tax light is beginning to glow in the East. "Progress and Poverty" has been translated into the Japanese language, and the editor of the leading Liberal paper of the country has written an able work in advocacy of Mr. George's philosophy. Mr. Garst said that he had gone to Japan eight years ago, believing that the Gospel of Jesus offered the sovereign remedy for all human ills. He still believed that, but since he had read "Progress and Poverty" his vision had broadened. He had found in his missionary work that he could not talk effectively of the bread of eternal life to men whose stomachs were hungering for the bread of this life. He now preached the single tax as a part of the great truth of Christianity. It was the only system of taxation that squared with the Sermon on the Mount; it was divinely appointed, and its application will arrest the frightful tendencies of civilization, and restore to men the rights and possibilities that God intended they should all enjoy.

Mr. Garst was followed throughout with the closest attention, even the crowd that could find no seats remaining till the close. An interesting discussion followed, Dr. Lewis, a visitor, and Mr. Meadows, Mr. Cook, Mr. White and Mr. Wells participating.

Mayor Washburne is just about to appoint a committee of the Council, to act with a committee of citizens and representatives of the various inter-mural transit companies in a thorough investigation of the question of better transportation facilities. This is now the burning question in Chicago, and it is universally discussed, the papers being full of it, and every member of the Council having some scheme for its settlement. The Mayor himself tells me that he is in favor of municipalizing the street railways, and many members of the Council with whom I have recently talked assure me that they believe that the solution of the problem. However, the charter stands in the way, and that must be amended before any step in this direction can be taken. What the committee will recommend in the premises the future will tell, but we propose to set before it some reasons why it should deal manfully with the problem, and boldly propose a final solution of it in accordance with true principles. A committee from our club will look after this matter. It is composed of the following gentlemen: Messrs. Irwin, Kellogg, Brown, White, and Munro.

IOWA.

W. E. Brokaw writes from Decorah: I went to New Hampton December 4, and spoke in the Opera House that night. I spoke again on the 5th in the same place, to a smaller audience. They kept me answering questions for an hour or more after my talk each night. The thinking men of the place, among them a banker and a Catholic priest, came out to hear me. On the 7th I came to Decorah; I talked on the 8th to a small audience in the Court House. I have sold several of "Pa" Chase's books recently, but George's "Reply to the Pope" sells better than anything else now. Of enclosed signers Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 8, 9, 10 and 11 are single taxers. No. 5 is a large land owner and banker who heard me twice, and then bought several books. No. 6 is so strongly protectionist that he is willing all revenues should be raised by the single tax, but wants our industries "protected." No. 7 is an editor who will advertise "Protection or Free Trade?" and perhaps use the single tax matter. No. 12 is editor of a Norwegian paper, and

No. 13 of a republican paper. No. 14 is a single tax traveling man. Nos. 15, 16, 17, 18 and 19 were handed to me by Mr. Rochmer, of New Hampton.

MISSOURI.

The single tax men of St. Louis have begun the publication of a monthly periodical called "The Way Out." Jon. E. Morse, of 672 Mitchell avenue, is the editor. It is admirably adapted, typographically and otherwise, for its purpose of calling attention to the movement and interesting new people in it.

NEBRASKA.

H. R. Bisbee writes from Ainsworth: The single tax is making progress here. One year ago Rev. T. W. De Long and myself made up the number. Now we have in addition Dr. W. E. Ely, S. G. Chaney, Esq., Mrs. M. B. Philbrick, Miss A. E. Brackett, and Miss Ida Edson, and contemplate organizing a club.

RHODE ISLAND.

William Barker, of Providence, writes: Hon. Charles E. Gorman, a leading lawyer of Providence and an ex-Speaker of our Legislature, has within a fortnight avowed himself a single taxer, and though a consistent Roman Catholic, says he has read with much pleasure Henry George's "Open Letter to the Pope."

The single tax men of Rhode Island have their annual supper in Providence, at Gelb & Norton's, on Thursday evening, December 17. Wm. Lloyd Garrison, of Boston, is to be their guest. Tickets may be procured of George D. Liddell, 145 Transit street, Providence.

WEST VIRGINIA.

W. J. Boreman, of Parkersburg, writes: Our Congressman, Mr. James Capehart, voted sturdily for Mills for the Speakership, and is an out and out free trader without any tariff for revenue trimmings. We commend him to other single tax voters in this Congressional district. The free trade element and progressive Democrats about here are greatly chagrined at the defeat of Mills. It looks as if the whole country is to be Tammanyized. I feel like saying, "Down with the Democratic party!" and yet, maybe it is the sign of a split of the office holders from the real live Democrats. I hope so. I do not wish to see that party win unless upon a live issue.

The vote of our Congressmen in the Speakership contest divided as it should. The place-hunters voted for Crisp, while "Billy" Wilson and Capehart, the reform wing, preferred Mills. The Democratic paper here is strong for Crisp, Gorman & Co., and hates Cleveland and free trade. The State of West Virginia will go Republican next fall. The opening of many coal mines and timber lands, and the building of new lines of railroads, has filled the State with darkeys from old Virginia, and white laborers from Ohio and Pennsylvania. This means Republican votes.

The re-valuation of land is now being made in our State. This is done about every nine or ten years, and in this county the assessor is lowering the valuation of farm lands from 10 to 50 per cent., and is increasing the assessments on town lots from 100 to 500 per cent. This last change may seem a great one to outsiders, but really it is only a drop in the bucket, as the valuation of vacant town lots has been from 5 to ten per cent. of their real value, and often lower than 5, so that an increase of 500 per cent. would leave a \$1,000 lot at \$300, where it had been formerly assessed at \$50. We are trying to show the farmers that they pay too much tax on their farms, and that the vacant lots pay too little, and that a lowering of farms would not benefit them so much as a stiff tax on town lots would. The market for their produce would be greatly increased if town lots were forced into use. They are beginning to see this.

SINGLE TAX LETTER WRITERS.

This week's list contains further names of delegates to the Farmers' Congress, held at Sedalia, Mo., last month. Explain the special oppressions which the farmers suffer through our present methods of taxation. It is the farmers near and far who, as a class, most need enlightenment as to the single tax, and who would be its most ardent supporters did they but understand its principles.

- Division A—J. C. Evans, Harlem, Mo.
- Division B—M. B. W. Harmen, Maryville, Mo.
- Division C—G. W. Haller, Independence, Mo.
- Division D—Marian Sparks, Marshal, Mo.
- Division E—C. E. Foley, Bowling Green, Mo.

I hope next week to present an improvement in our plan of division, acting with the advice of friends of the corps.

MARIAN DANA MACDANIEL, Secretary, 1674 Broadway, New York.

ALIEN LAND LAW DEAD IN TEXAS.

The Supreme Court of Texas has declared the alien land law passed at the last session of the Legislature to be unconstitutional.

PERSONAL.

Colonel Thomas W. Higginson contributes a charming paper entitled "The Lilliputian Theory of Woman," to Harper's Bazar.

Alfred Bishop Mason is manager of the corporation known as Sprague, Duncan & Hutchinson, Limited, of New York, the greatest organization of electrical engineers in the country.

Mark Twain contributes to the December number of Harper's Magazine a curiously interesting article on "Mental Telegraphy," which has already awakened inquiry and provoked discussion among people interested in psychological problems.

Mr. Stead's collection of ghost stories in the Christmas number of the Review of Reviews, and the setting in which he puts it, constitute one of the most remarkable productions of the greatest of all newspaper reporters.

James P. Murtagh, in a paper read by him before the Michigan Federation of Labor, at Bay City, and published in full in the Detroit Sunday News, of December 13, argued that land ownership should be restricted to

the use of land, and advocated, as the quickest way to bring about such a result, the taxation of land values, so as to make it unprofitable to hold land out of use, and to relieve all products of labor from the payment of taxes.

Mrs. Lide Merriweather, of Memphis, Tenn., delivered a strong address, which was well received, at the Methodist Church, in Bayonne, N. J., early in the month. Her subject was "The Silent Seven," an allusion to the disqualification of minors, aliens, paupers, criminals, lunatics, idiots and women, as voters. Mrs. Merriweather was tendered a reception by prominent residents of Bayonne at the house of Mrs. Christie.

Helena S. Vinton, wife of Lindley Vinton, a well-known lawyer of New York, and among the leading free trade speakers of the Reform Club, died suddenly at the Plaza Hotel, New York City, on December 14th.

In reports of the free-for-all reading contest in the House of Representatives at Washington, intended to discover the fittest candidate for reading clerk, H. Martin Williams is described as a tall, black bearded Missourian, who brought a stentorian voice with him, and read a report with vigor enough almost to wake the dead, and one report says: "As he called the roll he brought to mind the days of Neil Brown, whose memory as a reader still lingers at the capitol." Mr. Williams's dangerous competitors appear to be W. J. Houghtaling, of New York, and M. A. Morrison, of Indiana.

PUBLISHER'S NOTES.

NOTE.—All checks and post office orders should be drawn simply to the order of THE STANDARD. In remitting in postage stamps, ones and twos are preferred to those of larger denomination. By complying strictly with this request, correspondents will save the publisher much trouble.

CLASSIFIED LIST OF ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS TO THE STANDARD FROM AUGUST 19, 1891, TO DATE.

Alabama.....	5	Mexico.....	4
Arizona.....	1 1/2	Montana.....	4 1/2
Australia.....	2	Nebraska.....	8 1-6
California.....	38 5-6	New Hampshire.....	1/2
Canada.....	39 1/2	New Jersey.....	49 1-6
Colorado.....	21	New Mexico.....	8 1/2
Connecticut.....	11	New York.....	204
Cuba.....	1 1/2	New Zealand.....	2
Delaware.....	3 1/2	North Dakota.....	2 1/2
District of Columbia.....	12 5-6	Ohio.....	44 5-6
England.....	4	Oregon.....	7
Florida.....	5	Pennsylvania.....	70 1/2
France.....	2	Rhode Island.....	12 1/2
Georgia.....	3	South Dakota.....	9
Illinois.....	57 1/2	South Carolina.....	1/2
Indiana.....	5 1-6	Texas.....	24
Iowa.....	27 1/2	Tennessee.....	8 1/2
Kansas.....	15 1/2	Utah.....	1 1/2
Kentucky.....	7 1/2	Vermont.....	5
Louisiana.....	4 1/2	Virginia.....	8
Maryland.....	10 1/2	West Virginia.....	1/2
Massachusetts.....	68	Wisconsin.....	11
Missouri.....	26	Washington.....	13 1/2
Maine.....	3 1/2	Wyoming.....	2
Minnesota.....	17 1-6		
Michigan.....	23		
Mississippi.....	1		
			920 5-6

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS TO THE STANDARD SINCE AUGUST 19, 1891.

Total for this week.....	71 1/2
Total for last week in August.....	25
“ “ “ September.....	54
“ “ “ October.....	48 1/2
“ “ “ November.....	79
“ first “ September.....	58 5-6
“ “ “ October.....	52 1/2
“ “ “ November.....	47 5-6
“ “ “ December.....	41 1/2
“ second “ September.....	59 1/2
“ “ “ October.....	56 3-6
“ “ “ November.....	38 1/2
“ “ “ December.....	104 1/2
“ third “ September.....	51 1/2
“ “ “ October.....	34 5-6
“ “ “ November.....	44 1/2
“ “ “ December.....	71 1/2
“ fourth “ September.....	50
	920 5-6

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On receipt of guarantees for not less than 25,000 annual subscriptions, said guarantees to go into effect not later than July 1, 1892, we hereby agree to publish THE STANDARD in its present form and size at the price of \$1 per year.

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On January 1, 1892.....subscriptions.

“ April 1, “ “
“ July 1, “ “

Total.....subscriptions.

Name.....

Address.....

Our decision will be made on the 29th of December, and published in THE STANDARD of December 30th.

THE OLE PINE BOX.

Frank L. Stanton, in Atlanta Constitution.
We didn't care in the long ago
For easy chairs 'at were made for show—
With velvet cushions in red and black,
An' springs 'at tilted a feller back
Afore he knowed it—like them in town—
Till his keels flew up and his head went down!
But the seat we loved in the times o' yore
Wuz the ole pine box by the grocery store.

Thar it sat in the rain an' shine,
Four feet long by the measurin' line;
Under the chiny-berry tree—
Jes' as cosy as she could be!
Fust headquarters for information—
Best old box in the whole creation:
Hacked and wittled an' wrote with rhyme,
An' so blamed sociable all the time.

Thar we plotted an' thar we planned,
Read the news in the paper, and
Talked o' pollyticks fur and wide,
Got mixed up as we argued:
An' the old town fiddler sawed away
At "Ole Dan Tucker" an' "Nelly Gray!"
O, they's boxes still—but they ain't no more
Like the ole pine box at the grocery store.

It ain't thar now, as it wuz that day—
Burnt, I reckon, or throwed away:
An' some o' the folks 'at the ole box knowed
Is fur along on the dusty road:
An' some's crost over the river wide
An' found a home on the other side,
Have they all forgot? Don't they sigh no more
For the ole pine box by the grocery store?

UNEARNED INCREMENT.

When land in England sells in some places at the rate of £13,000,000 an acre, the expression "dirt cheap" loses some of its significance.—Boston News.

"Here, my good fellow," said an English lord at a Philadelphia hotel table, as he slyly laid a dollar under his napkin. "What is that for?" asked the waiter without moving. "For? Why, that is for you. Take it." "For me? And why for me?" "Surely you must understand," whispered the lord in astonishment; "that is your tip. I never give less than a dollar." "You are mistaken, sir," said the waiter, drawing himself up haughtily. "I am paid by the landlord for my services. I accept no 'tips.' I am an American." N. B.—This was told us by a hotel man, who said he hoped to die if it was not true. We are expecting every moment to hear of his death.—The Christian Register.

Boggs: "If Harrison should fail of a nomination it would be a bitter cup for him." Foggs: "Yes; and the story reads, 'And the cup was found in Benjamin's sack.'"—New York Herald.

Each lover has a keepsake
For the memory of his love;
One has a note or a ribbon,
And one a curl or a glove.

But I am rich in keepsakes:
Three notes I treasure apart:
There are two accepting my presents,
And one declining my heart.

—Macmillan's Magazine.

English Pauper: "Hi think hi'll take a pleasant trip to Hameriky an' back this summer." "Now'll ye get there?" "Why, the poor authorities here will pay my passage bout, an' has I've no means of support, the Hamericans will make the steamship company bring me back again."—Buffalo Express.

The price asked of the Southeastern Railway, in England, for a strip of land in Bermondsey, sixteen feet deep, comprising an area of 4,000 feet, was at the rate of £13,000,000 an acre.

The Marquis of Liu Foo Tsui: "You say you live in Chicago? What State is it in?" Hyde Park (with pride): "It was in the State of Illinois; but it is now in the er—United States."

A family, consisting of a father and his three sons, by the name of Beaver, had "pets," had often laughed to scorn a pious though eccentric minister. One of the boys was bitten by a rattlesnake, and was expected to die, when the minister was sent for. He found the young man very penitent. The minister, calling on the family, knelt down and prayed in this wise: "O Lord, rethunk Thee for the rattlesnake. We thank

Thee because a rattlesnake has bitten Jim. We pray Thee send a rattlesnake to bite John; send one to bite Bill; and, O Lord, send the biggest kind of a rattlesnake to bite the old man; for nothing but rattlesnakes will ever bring the Beaver family to repentance!"—Methodist Recorder.

"Mr. White," said a Harrisburg lawyer to a witness in the box, "at the time these papers were executed, you were speculating, were you not?" "Yes, sir." "You were in oil." "I was." "And what are you in now?" "Bankruptcy," was the solemn reply.—The Rural New Yorker.

A SINGLE ILLUSTRATION.

Henry E. Seaver.

When the last party of "boomers" went into the newly opened Indian reservation lands in Oklahoma, a splendid illustration of one of the features of the single tax was suggested. Suppose among them there was one farmer who took up a quarter section of 160 acres for farming purposes and a company of men who took up land for a town site. As the quarter sections were adjoining and equally fertile and valuable in the commencement, the only difference would be that one was occupied by one farmer, who took 160 acres for his business, while the other was occupied by say one hundred and sixty men with one acre apiece. Suppose that one year has elapsed. The farmer has a good crop and the market value of his farm has increased by this and his nearness to the newly arisen town to \$5 an acre. In the town, however, the much larger body of inhabitants have to be supplied with the necessities of life—food, houses, clothing and other etceteras, including hotels and "saloons." It is easy to see that the price of corner lots has risen in consequence of the demand for business locations. As there are twelve 25x100 lots to an acre after streets are laid out, then if the lots in the town are worth only the small price of \$10 each, these 1,920 lots in the town site are worth \$19,200, while the farm at \$5 an acre is worth only \$800. This is the bare land value, nothing being taken as the value of houses in either case, and the difference is a striking illustration of the effectiveness of the single tax in putting the tax burden on the cities and not upon "the poor farmer."

BAKERS WORKING EIGHTEEN HOURS.

New York Times.

At a meeting of the New York Federation of Labor Delegate Weismann said that the Confectioners' Union had been investigating the condition of workmen in bakeries, especially on the East side. In many places, he said, the proprietors, their wives and their employees worked eighteen hours a day, and all slept on straw in the cellars. Complaint had been made, he said, to the Factory Inspector, who had stated that bakeries were exempt from inspection by him. So the confectioners had concluded to ask the Legislature to amend the factory inspection law so as to embrace the bakeries in its provisions.

THE SINGLE TAX.

The Way Out.

The single tax would, by taking for public use that value which attaches to land by reason of the growth and improvement of the community, make the holding of land unprofitable to the mere owner, and profitable only to the user. It would thus make it impossible for speculators and monopolists to hold natural opportunities unused or only half used, and would throw open to labor the limitless field of employment which the earth offers to man.

TOBACCO VERSUS BACILLI.

All the Year Round.

It has long been a popular opinion that tobacco is an antiseptic, and this belief seems to have some solid basis of fact. Professor Vincenzo Tassinari, of the Hygienic Institute of the University of Pisa, recently made some very interesting experiments on the supposed germicidal virtues of tobacco smoke, which seemed to show that it really had a destructive action upon the growth of bacilli, those minute organisms which are said to be the cause of a vast number of bodily ills that flesh is heir to. Professor Tassinari observed the action of the fumes upon seven different kinds of bacteria—the so-called cholera bacillus, the cattle distemper bacillus, the pus cocci, the

Finkler-Prior bacterium, the typhus and pleuropneumonia bacillus, and the blue pus bacillus.

Wishing to imitate as closely as possible the processes going on in a smoker's mouth, the professor passed tobacco fumes through a horizontal tube into a receptacle kept moist by damp cotton wool which contained also a colony of bacilli. The result showed that the smoke retards the growth of some kinds of bacilli, and absolutely prevents the growth of others. The tobacco experimented with was that which is used in making the large Cavour cigar, much favored in Italy, and it was proved that its fumes retard the growth of pus bacilli by seventy-two hours, and of cattle distemper bacilli by one hundred hours, while they absolutely arrest the growth of the so-called cholera and typhus bacilli. If Professor Tassinari's results may be relied upon, it is evident that not only is tobacco not the deadly enemy of man—and it is singular with what eagerness man takes to so many of his deadly enemies—but in many instances it is his great friend, not only by way of solace, but as a warder off and destroyer of deadly germs that insist on colonizing his body and turning it to their own uses.

BAD JOKE ON THE DEACON.

New York Herald.

Every country place has its queer character, and George Stowe played this part in a little Vermont hamlet. George was of uncertain age and of uncertain mental capacity. He seemed simple, but in reality was endowed with a full share of shrewd Yankee cunning, and he eked out a precarious livelihood by driving a hack to the railway station and trading on his deafness, which was as unreliable as his mental capacity.

He also drank stale and bewildering draughts of beer whenever he could inveigle any one into buying it for him.

"What'll you have, George?" asked a stranger whom he had just brought down from the village. "a glass of beer or a piece of pie?"

"Yes, yes, thank you," replied George, affecting to misunderstand the question, "I'll drink the beer and take the pie right in my hand."

Another favorite coup of George's was whenever any one said "Good day" to him to promptly reply:

"Yes, thank you; don't care if I do," and steer straight away for the bar.

One day while riding down to the station with a deacon of the church George was seized with a fit of repentance.

"Deacon," said he, "I would like to brace up and do better—stop drinking and show all the folks that I am a good deal more of a man than they thought. I can do it if I try, I know, only, you see, I have said I was going to stop so many times and didn't do it that they won't none of them believe me now."

"I am very glad to hear it; but how can you convince them?"

"I've got an idea. Now when we get down to the station you ask me to have a drink, and then I'll have a chance to refuse right before them all, and show them that I mean business this time."

"All right, George; we'll do it, and I hope you'll stick to your good intentions."

They reached the depot and went into the eating room. A large crowd was there waiting for the train. The deacon in his brisk and hearty way spoke up so that all could hear.

"Come, George, have a drink?" he said.

"Yes, thank you, don't care if I do," replied George, and he promptly walked up to the bar.

He had the drink and the deacon paid for it, but the deacon lost a great deal of faith in mankind thereby.

NEXT CATHOLIC CONGRESS.

Philadelphia Ledger.

The committee having in charge the work of the proposed Roman Catholic Congress of 1893 have prepared a report, which was submitted to the Cardinal and Archbishops at St. Louis last week, and approved by them. The Congress will consist of delegates from every diocese, appointed by the Bishops, and the main feature of its work will be the discussion of the economic questions embraced in the recent encyclical of the Pope.

Goslin: "Aw, I have a vewy bad headache this mawning, doncher know." Cuspid (a dentist, absent-mindedly): "Why don't you have it filled?"—Greensburg Sparks.

THE INKSTAND BATTLE.

Sam. Walter Foss, in Yankee Blade.

We are making smokeless powder
And big bombs to throw a mile,
That will blow the foe to chowder
In the true dynamic style.
Talk not of the bloody red man,
And the foe his arrow drops—
Every ball, it means a dead man,
Every bullet means a corpse!

We've a whirling gun; you spin it
And the myriad bullets fly,
And a hundred men a minute
Roll their stony eyes and die.
"Make pour swath of dead men deeper,"
Thus the modern Spirit saith,
"Start me up this rattling reaper
On the harvest fields of death."

Let us stop this wild death's revel;
Martin Luther, so 'tis said,
Threw his inkstand at the devil
And the black fiend turned and fled.
Smite your world-wrong; don't combat it
With a fusillade of lead;
Simply throw your inkstand at it,
Come to-morrow; it is dead.

When the world upon the brink stands
Of some crisis steep and dread,
Like brave soldiers seize your inkstands
Hurl them at the devil's head.
Pour your inkpots in a torrent
Till the stangling demon sink,
Till the struggling fiend abhorrent
Drown in oceans of black ink.

For the man who's born a fighter,
For the brain that's learned to think,
There is dynamite and nitre
In a bottle of black ink.
Though it makes no weeping nations,
And it leaves no gaping scars,
Placed 'neath error's strong foundations,
'Twill explode them to the stars.

FATHER DUCHEY AT ST. LOUIS.

St. Louis Democrat.

The Rev. Thomas J. Ducey is staying at the Lindell. Father Ducey is a polished gentleman, with silvery gray hair, which gives an additional grace to his courtly manners, and sets off his florid and refined features. He is the man who unconsciously raised the discussion upon the Pope's encyclical with reference to the question of private property in land. The reverend gentleman has not been interviewed in St. Louis. To be credited once in a lifetime with heretical opinions through the medium of a newspaper man is enough to put the most careless priest on his guard. And if a New York paper made a man talk heresy, Father Ducey seems to think a St. Louis paper might throw in infidelity as well.

TO VINDICATE TOM WATSON.

N. Y. Times.

Congressman Watson and Speaker Crisp are now the objects of great concern in Georgia. Crisp's friends are mad at Watson for voting against him, and the supporters of Mr. Cleveland are talking out about Mr. Crisp's fondling of the Hill boom.

To begin with, when Mr. Crisp announced himself for Speaker, State pride silenced every other feeling, and the delegation fell into line with the exception of Tom Watson. It was noticeable all along that Crisp aroused no enthusiasm whatever.

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SINGLE TAX LEAGUE OF THE UNITED STATES.

PLATFORM

ADOPTED BY THE NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF THE SINGLE TAX LEAGUE OF THE UNITED STATES AT COOPER UNION, NEW YORK, SEPT. 3, 1896.

We assert as our fundamental principle the self-evident truth enunciated in the Declaration of American Independence, that all men are created equal, and are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights.

We hold that all men are equally entitled to the use and enjoyment of what God has created and of what is gained by the general growth and improvement of the community of which they are a part. Therefore, no one should be permitted to hold natural opportunities without a fair return to all for any special privilege thus accorded to him, and that value which the growth and improvement of the community attach to land should be taken for the use of the community.

We hold that each man is entitled to all that his labor produces. Therefore no tax should be levied on the products of labor.

To carry out these principles we are in favor of raising all public revenues for national, state, county and municipal purposes by a single tax upon land values, irrespective of improvements, and of the abolition of all forms of direct and indirect taxation.

Since in all our states we now levy some tax on the value of land, the single tax can be instituted by the simple and easy way of abolishing, one after another all other taxes now levied, and commensurately increasing the tax on land values, until we draw upon that one source for all expenses of government, the revenue being divided between local governments, state governments and the general government, as the revenue from direct taxes is now divided between the local and state governments; or, a direct assessment being made by the general government upon the states and paid by them from revenues collected in this manner.

The single tax we propose is not a tax on land, and therefore would not fall on the use of land and become a tax on labor.

It is a tax, not on land, but on the value of land. Thus it would not fall on all land, but only on valuable land, and on that not in proportion to the use made of it, but in proportion to its value—the premium which the user of land must pay to the owner, either in purchase money or rent, for permission to use valuable land. It would thus be a tax, not on the use or improvement of land, but on the ownership of land, taking what would otherwise go to the owner as owner, and not as user.

In assessments under the single tax all values created by individual use or improvement would be excluded and the only value taken into consideration would be the value attaching to the bare land by reason of neighborhood, etc., to be determined by impartial periodical assessments. Thus the farmer would have no more taxes to pay than the speculator who held a similar piece of land idle, and the man who on a city lot erected a valuable building would be taxed no more than the man who held a similar lot vacant.

The single tax, in short, would call upon men to contribute to the public revenues, not in proportion to what they produce or accumulate, but in proportion to the value of the natural opportunities they hold. It would compel them to pay just as much for holding land idle as for putting it to its fullest use.

The single tax, therefore, would—

1. Take the weight of taxation off of the agricultural districts where land has little or no value irrespective of improvements, and put it on towns and cities where bare land rises to a value of millions of dollars per acre.
2. Dispense with a multiplicity of taxes and a horde of taxgatherers, simplify government and greatly reduce its cost.
3. Do away with the fraud, corruption and gross inequality inseparable from our present methods of taxation, which allow the rich to escape while they grind the poor. Land cannot be hid or carried off, and its value can be ascertained with greater ease and certainty than any other.
4. Give us with all the world as perfect freedom of trade as now exists between the states of our Union, thus enabling our people to share, through free exchanges, in all the advantages which nature has given to other countries, or which the peculiar skill of other peoples has enabled them to attain. It would destroy the trusts, monopolies and corruptions which are the outgrowths of the tariff. It would do away with the fines and penalties now levied on anyone who improves a farm, erects a house, builds a machine, or in any way adds to the general stock of wealth. It would leave everyone free to apply labor or expend capital in production or exchange without fine or restriction, and would leave to each the full product of his exertion.
5. It would, on the other hand, by taking for public use that value which attaches to land by reason of the growth and improvement of the community, make the holding of land unprofitable to the mere owner, and profitable only to the user. It would thus make it impossible for speculators and monopolists to hold natural opportunities unused or only half used, and would throw open to labor the illimitable field of employment which the earth offers to man. It would thus solve the labor problem, do away with involuntary poverty, raise wages in all occupations to the full earnings of labor, make overproduction impossible until all human wants are satisfied, render labor-saving inventions blessing to all, and cause such an enormous production, and

such an equitable distribution of wealth as would give to all comfort, leisure and participation in the advantages of an advancing civilization.

With respect to monopolies other than the monopoly of land, we hold that where free competition becomes impossible, as in telegraphs, railroads, water and gas supplies, etc., each business becomes a proper social function, which should be controlled and managed by and for the whole people concerned, through their proper government, local, state or national, as may be.

LIST OF ORGANIZATIONS

THAT HAVE ADOPTED THE DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES MADE BY NATIONAL CONFERENCE AT NEW YORK, SEPTEMBER 3, 1890.

Secretaries of clubs are requested to send corrections, notices of the formation of new clubs or of requests for the enrollment of existing clubs to Geo. St. John Leavens, Secretary of the National Committee at No. 42 University place, New York.

ARKANSAS.

LITTLE ROCK.—Single tax club. Every alternate Thursday evening, 717 Main st. Pres., Sol. F. Clark; sec., Theo. Hartman.

CALIFORNIA.

LOS ANGELES.—Single tax club. Pres., Clarence A. Miller; sec., S. Byron Welcome, 523 Macy st.

OAKLAND.—Oakland single tax club No. 1. Meets every Friday evening at St. Andrew's Hall, at 1066½ Broadway. Pres., A. J. Gregg; sec., E. Hodgkins.

SAN FRANCISCO.—California single tax society, room 9, 241 Market street. Pres., L. M. Manzer; cor. sec., Thomas Watson, 441 Market street.

COLORADO.

DENVER.—Single tax club. Headquarters 303 16th st. Pres., Geo. H. Phelps; sec. James Crosby, P. O. Box 257, Englewood.

PUEBLO.—Commonwealth single tax club. Regular meetings fourth Friday of each month at office of B. D. V. Reeve, corner Union av. and Main st. Pres., B. D. V. Reeve; sec., J. W. Brentlinger.

CONNECTICUT.

SHARON.—Sharon single tax committee. Chairman, J. J. Ryan.

BRIDGE.—Meriden single tax club. Meets second and fourth Fridays of the month at 7:30 p. m. at parlors of J. Cairns, 72½ E. Main st. President, John Cairns; secretary, Arthur M. Dignam.

DELAWARE.

WILMINGTON.—Single tax association. Meets first and third Mondays of each month at 8 p. m. Pres., Geo. W. Koser; sec., Frank L. Beardon.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

WASHINGTON.—Chas. F. Adams' Scientific Council (No. 2) of the People's Commonwealth. First Tuesday evening of each month at 150 A st. n. w. Trustee, Chas. Newburgh, 64 DeForest st.; sec., Dr. Wm. Geddes, 1719 G st. n. w.

WASHINGTON single tax league. President, Edwin Gladmon; treas., R. J. Boyd; sec'y, Wm. Geddes, M.D., 1719 G st. n. w.

GEORGIA.

ATLANTA, Ga.—Atlanta single tax club No. 1. Pres., J. M. Beath; sec., J. Henley Smith, 12 W. Alabama st.

ILLINOIS.

CHICAGO.—Chicago single tax club. Every Thursday evening at 206 La Salle st. Pres., Warren Worth Bailey, 219 Lincoln av.; sec., F. W. Irwin, 217 La Salle st., room 713.

SOUTH CHICAGO.—Single tax club of South Chicago and Cheltenham. Pres., John Black; sec., Robt. Altchison, box E. K., South Chicago.

BRACEVILLE.—Braceville single tax committee. Pres., John Mainwaring; sec., Chas. E. Matthews.

PEORIA.—Peoria single tax club. Meetings Thursday evenings in Court House. Pres., Jas. W. Hill, 310 North st.; sec., Jas. W. Avery.

QUINCY.—Gem City single tax club. Meets every Thursday evening at 7:30, room 4, second floor, n. e. cor. 5th and Hampshire sts. Pres., C. F. Perry; cor. sec. Duke Schroer, 524 York st.

INDIANA.

INDIANAPOLIS.—Single tax league. Pres., Thos. J. Hudson; sec., Chas. H. Krause. Every Sunday, 2:30 p. m. Manser Hall, cor. Washington and Alabama sts, room 12.

BLOOMING.—Single tax club. Pres., C. S. Schneider, 5 South 3d st.; sec., M. Rickle, 913 South 4 st.

IOWA.

BURLINGTON.—Burlington single tax club. First Saturday of each month, 805 North 5th st. Pres., Wilbur Beeson, 390 Hodge av.; sec. treas., Frank S. Churchill.

CEDAR RAPIDS.—Single tax club. L. G. Booth, pres.; J. Y. Kennedy, sec.

STOCK CITY.—Single tax committee. Pres. N. C. A. Raybouser, 214 Kansas st.; sec'y, E. B. Bickerton, 21st and Howard sts.

KENTUCKY.

LOUISVILLE.—Progress single tax club. Open every evening, 504 West Jefferson st. Business meetings Friday. Pres., Christ. Landolf; sec., W. W. Daniel, 803 Franklin st.

LOUISIANA.

NEW ORLEANS.—Louisiana single tax club. Meets first and third Thursday night at 8 p. m. at 131 Poydras st. Pres., Jas. Middleton; sec., G. W. Roberts, 326 Thalia st.

MAINE.

AUBURN.—Auburn single tax club. Public meetings every Saturday evening, 3 River Road. Pres., A. C. Dunlap; sec., W. G. Andrews, P. O. Box 703.

MARYLAND.

BALTIMORE.—Single tax league of Maryland. Every Monday at 8 p. m. in hall 506 East Baltimore st.; Pres. Wm. J. Ogden, 5 North Carey st.; sec. sec., J. W. Bond, 28 Broadway; cor. sec., Dr. Wm. H. Hill, 1435 E. Baltimore st.

Baltimore single tax society. Every Sunday afternoon, 3 p. m., at Industrial Hall, 226 W. Lombard st. Pres., Jas. E. Kelly; sec., W. E. Kelly, 622 Columbia st.

MASSACHUSETTS.

STATE.—Massachusetts single tax league. Pres., William Lloyd Garrison; sec., E. H. Underhill, 45 Kirby st., Boston; treas., George Cox, Jr., 72 High st., Boston.

BOSTON.—Single tax league. Public meetings second fourth Sundays of each month at 2:30 p. m. at G. A. R. Hall, 616 Washington st. Pres., Edwin M. White; sec. Emily T. Turner 5 Cambridge st.

BROOKLYN.—Single tax club. Meets Friday evenings corner Glenwood av. and Vernon st. Pres., Wm. A. McKindrick; sec., A. S. Barnard, 54 Belmont st.

DORCHESTER.—Single tax club. Meetings first Tuesday of each month at Field's building, Field's corner. Pres., Edward Frost; sec., John Adams, Field's building, Field's corner.

HAVERHILL.—Haverhill single tax league. Meets every Thursday evening, at 73 Merrimac st. Pres., Geo. W. Pettengill; cor. sec., Edward E. Collum, 4 Green st.

MALDEN.—Single tax club. Pres., Geo. W. Cox; sec., Edwin T. Clark, 100 Tremont st.

NEPONSET.—Single tax league. Sec., Q. A. Lothrop, Wood at court, Neponset.

NEWBURYPORT.—Merrimac single tax assembly. Pres., Andrew R. Curtis; sec., Wm. R. Whitmore, 236 Merrimac street.

ROXBURY.—Single tax club. Pres., Frank W. Mendum 141 Hampden st.; sec., W. L. Crossman, 131 Marcella st.

WORCESTER.—Worcester single tax club. Meetings first Thursday of month, at Reform club hall, 98 Front st. Pres., Thomas J. Hastings; sec., E. K. Page, Lake View, Worcester.

MINNESOTA.

MINNEAPOLIS.—Minneapolis single tax league. Every Monday evening, at the West Hotel. Pres., H. B. Martin, Woods' block; sec., Oliver T. Erickson, 2203 Lyndale av., N.

ST. PAUL.—Single tax club. Pres., H. C. McCartney; sec., Geo. C. Madison, corner East Sixth and Cedar sts.

MISSOURI.

STATE.—Missouri single tax committee. Henry H. Hoffman, chairman. This committee is pushing a State single tax petition. Blanks sent on application. It is also forming syndicate for publication of local single tax papers throughout the United States at little or no expense. Write for circulars to Percy Pepoon, sec., 513 Elm st., St. Louis.

HERMANS.—Single tax committee. Pres., R. H. Hasenritter; sec., Dr. H. A. Hibbard.

KANSAS CITY.—Single tax club. First Sunday of the month, at 3 p. m., at Bacon Lodge Hall, 1204 and 1206 Walnut st. Pres., Herman Hermalink; sec., R. F. Young, Signal Service office.

ST. LOUIS.—Single tax league. Tuesday evenings at rooms of the Clerk of Criminal Court, Four Courts, 12th street and Clark avenue. Pres., Hon. Dennis A. Ryan, 1616 Washington st.; sec., T. J. Smith, 1515 Taylor av.

Benton School of Social Science. Meets every Saturday evening at 6839 Waldemar avenue. Pres., Henry S. Chase; sec., W. C. Little.

NEBRASKA.

WYMORE.—Wymore single tax and tariff reform club. Meetings every Wednesday evening at Union hall. Pres., Julius Hamm; sec. and treas., H. C. Jaynes; P. O. Box 137.

NEW JERSEY.

CANDEY.—Single tax club. Meets every Saturday evening at Felton hall, n. e. cor. Second and Federal sts. Pres. Aaron Hand; sec., Wm. M. Callingham, 680 Line st.

PLAINFIELD.—Single tax club. Pres., John L. Anderson; sec., J. H. McCullough, 7 Pond place.

NEWARK.—Single tax and free trade club. Pres., C. B. Rathburn; sec., M. T. Gaffney, 211 Plaine st.

PATERSON.—Passaic Co. single tax club. Pres., E. W. Nellis; sec., John A. Craig, 192 Hamburg av. Meetings every Thursday evening at 109 Market st.

VINELAND.—Vineland single tax and ballot reform club. Pres., Rev. Adolph Roeder; sec., Wm. P. Nichols, box 924.

WASHINGTON.—Warren county land and labor club. Pres., A. W. Davis, Oxford; sec., John Morison, box 272, Washington.

NEW YORK.

NEW YORK.—Manhattan single tax club. Business Meeting first Thursday of each month at 8 p. m. Club rooms, 73 Lexington av.; open every day from 6 p. m. to 12 p. m. Pres. Louis F. Post; sec., A. J. Steers.

BROOKLYN.—Brooklyn single tax club. 198 Livingston st. Address all communications to J. Hickling, treas.

Women's single tax club. Meetings the first and third Tuesdays, 198 Livingston st. at 3 o'clock. Pres. Miss Eva J. Turner; sec., Miss Venie B. Havens, 219 DeKalb av.

East Brooklyn single tax club. Meetings every Monday evening, 448 Central av. Pres., James Hamilton; sec., Jas. R. Connell, 448 Central av.

Eastern District single tax club. Public meeting on first Tuesday in each month, held at Eureka Hall, 379 Bedford avenue. Business meeting first and third Mondays at 94 South Third street. Pres., Joseph McGuinness, 123 E. 6th st., Brooklyn, E. D.; sec., Emily A. Deverall.

Eighteenth ward single tax club. Every Thursday at 8 p. m. at 208 Evergreen av. Pres., J. J. Fankner; sec., Adolph Fankner, 208 Evergreen av.

ALBANY.—Albany single tax club. Meetings Sunday 7:30 p. m., Beaver-Block, cor. Pearl and Norton sts. Pres. F. W. Croake; cor. sec., Geo. Hoyer.

BIRMINGHAM.—Tax Reform Association. Pres., John H. Blakeney; sec., Edward Dundon, 33 Maiden lane.

BUFFALO.—Tax Reform Club. Pres., S. C. Rogers; sec. T. M. Crowe, 777 Elk st.

OSWEGO.—Pioneer single tax club. Pres., James Ryan sec., James C. Murray.

OWEGO.—Single tax club. Pres., Michael J. Murray sec., Wm. Minehaw, 50 West Main st.

LONG ISLAND CITY.—Freedom association meets evening of every fourth Friday of the month at Schwabensberg's hall, corner Vernon and Borden avs. Sec., T. G. Drake, 215 Kouwenhoven st.

TROY.—Single tax club. Meetings every Thursday evening at 576 River st; Pres., Henry Sterling; sec., B. E. Martin, 576 River st.

WEST NEW BRIGHTON.—Richmond County single tax club. Sec., A. B. Stoddard.

NORTH DAKOTA.

HATTON.—Hatton single tax reform club. Pres., A. Forslid; sec., T. E. Nelson; treas., M. F. Hegge.

OHIO.

CINCINNATI.—Cincinnati single tax club. Every Monday night, 7:30 o'clock, Robertson's Hall, Lincoln's Inn Court, 227 Main st. (near P. O.). Pres., Jos. L. Schraer sec., Dr. David De Beck, 139 W. 9th st.

CLEVELAND.—Single tax club. Meets on call of president at room 703, Society for Saving building. W. F. Blen, sec'y and treas.

DAYTON.—Free land club. Pres., J. G. Galloway; sec. W. W. Kile, 108 East 5th st.

GALLON.—Gallon single tax club. Every Monday evening, residence of P. C. Snay, 103 South Union st. Pres. P. J. Snay; sec., Maud E. Snay.

HEMLOCK.—Single tax club. Pres., D. P. Sweeney; sec. James G. Hayden.

MIAMIURG.—Miamiurg single tax club. Pres., H. M. Scott; sec., J. T. Beala.

YOUNGSTOWN.—Every Thursday evening, Ivorites hall Pres., Billy Radcliffe; sec., A. C. Hughes, 13 Public sq.

ZANESVILLE.—Single tax club. Pres., W. H. Longhee sec., Wm. Quigley.

OREGON.

PORTLAND.—Single tax club. Meets first Monday in each month at Free Library Hall, 171 Second st. Pres. T. D. Warwick; sec., Wallace Yates, 193 Sixth st., Portland, Ore.

PENNSYLVANIA.

SHADFORD.—Single tax club. Hevenor's hall, 41 Main st. Meetings for discussion every Sunday at 3:30 p. m.

GERMANTOWN.—Single tax club. Sec. E. D. Burlleigh, 13 Willow av. Meets first and third Tuesday of each month at Vernon Hall, cor. Main st. and Chelton av., at 8 p. m.

JOHNSTOWN.—Henry George club. Meets every Monday evening for public discussion. Pres., A. J. Moxham sec., S. E. Clarkson.

PHILADELPHIA.—Single tax society. Meets every Thursday and Sunday at 8 p. m. Social meetings second Tuesday, No. 30 South Broad st.; cor. sec., A. H. Stephenson, 240 Chestnut st.

PITTSBURG.—Pittsburg single tax club. Meets every first and third Sunday evening at 7:30, 64 4th av. Pres. Edm. Yardley; sec., Mark F. Roberts, 140 South 24th st.

POTTSTOWN.—Single tax club. Meetings first and third Friday evenings each month in Weitsenkorn's hall Pres., D. L. Haws; sec., Geo. Auchy, Pottstown, Pa.

READING.—Reading single tax society. Monday evenings, 723 Penn st. Pres., Wm. H. McKinney; sec., C. S. Prizer, 1011 Penn st.

RHODE ISLAND.

PAWTUCKET.—Pawtucket single tax association. Pres. John McCaffrey; sec., Matthew Curran, 64 Main st.

SOUTH DAKOTA.

STATE.—South Dakota single tax association. Pres. Judge Levi McGee, of Rapid City; sec., John B. Hanten Watertown.

BALTIC.—Baltic single tax club. Pres. T. T. Vrenne sec., T. J. Qvestad.

WATERTOWN.—Single tax club. Pres. Jno. B. Hanten sec., L. E. Brickell. Meetings every Wednesday night in basement Granite block.

TENNESSEE.

MEMPHIS.—Memphis single tax association. Pres., J. S. Menken; sec., R. G. Brown, Appeal building.

TEXAS.

EL PASO.—Single tax club. Meetings second and fourth Monday nights, 200½ El Paso st. Pres., G. Hubbard; sec. and treas., M. W. Stanton; cor. sec., G. Higgins.

HOUSTON.—Houston single tax club. Meetings every Tuesday evening, 7:30, Franklin st. Jas. Charlton, Pres.; E. W. Brown, sec. and treas.

WEST VIRGINIA.

PARKERSBURG.—Parkersburg single tax league Headquarters, 615 Market st. Pres., W. H. Curry; sec. W. F. Thayer.

WISCONSIN.

MILWAUKEE.—Milwaukee single tax league. Pres., L. B. Boston; sec. treas., Martin Johnson.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

PORT ADAM.—Single tax league. Pres., M. Mohr. Sec., R. LeMansinger.

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VERDICT OF LEADING CRITICS.

Mr. Howells in Harper's Magazine.

At the present we have only too much to talk about in a book so robust and terribly serious as Mr. Hamlin Garland's volume, called "Main-Travelled Roads." That is what they call the highways in the part of the West that Mr. Garland comes from and writes about; and these stories are full of the bitter and burning dust, the foul and trampled slush of the common avenues of life; the life of the men who hopelessly and cheerlessly make the wealth that enriches the alien and the idler, and impoverishes the producer. *If any one is still at a loss to account for that uprising of the farmers in the West, which is the translation of the Peasants' War into modern and republican terms, let him read "Main-Travelled Roads," and he will begin to understand.* . . . He has a fine courage to leave a fact with the reader, ungarnished and unvarnished, which is almost the rarest trait in an Anglo-Saxon writer, so infantile and feeble is the custom of our art; and this attains tragical sublimity in the opening sketch, "A Branch Road," where the lover who has quarrelled with his betrothed comes back to find her mismated and miserable, such a farm wife as Mr. Garland has alone dared to draw, and tempts the broken-hearted drudge away from her loveless home.—W. D. Howells, in the Editor's Study of Harper's Magazine for September.

Louise Chandler Moulton.

Hamlin Garland's splendid qualities—his sympathy with humanity, his perception of the subtlest meaning of nature, his power to bring his people before you as if you had grown up in their door-yards—these are his own.

Mary E. Wilkins has given us the pathos of humblest New England; Charles Egbert Craddock has made known to us the secrets of the Tennessee Mountains; Rudyard Kipling has carried us to India; and now, at last, here is the story-teller of farm life in those Western prairies, among which Hamlin Garland grew up, to which he goes back, now and again with the child's heart, the man's insight.

"Main-Travelled Roads" is a bold departure from the highway of ordinary fiction; like Henrik Ibsen, Hamlin Garland tells his story as he sees it, and impartial as faith, offers no hint as to the puzzle thus presented. He has the supreme art not to pronounce sentence on the men and women he has created. *I do not think Ibsen has written anything stronger, and he has seldom written anything so human or possible.* . . . "Main-Travelled Roads" is a book you cannot pass by.—Louise Chandler Moulton, in Boston Herald.

Mr. Flower in the Arena.

One of the most valuable contributions to distinctive American literature which have appeared in many years is Mr. Hamlin Garland's new work, "Main-Travelled Roads," the very title of which suggests its character and the location of the scenes portrayed, as those who have lived in the West will readily agree. . . . The "Main-Travelled Roads" is on every tongue in the West and it is of the West and her struggling children that Mr. Garland deals so vividly and with such power and sympathy in the six stories found in this work. With the rare power which distinguishes genius from mere scholastic training, our author reproduces scenes in nature and events in life, while he analyzes human emotions and invests his creations with so much real life that one never for a moment doubts the actuality of their existence, or that the master hand which deals with them is exaggerating or understating any detail in connection with his theme. . . . "Main-Travelled Roads" should find a place in the library of every thoughtful person who is interested in the welfare of the great toiling masses.—B. O. Flower, in the Arena for August.

The New England Magazine.

The most notable among the many collections of short stories that have lately poured from the press, both of this country and of England, is "Main-Travelled Roads," by Hamlin Garland. The stories comprised in this little volume are as realistic as anything written by Ibsen, but, at the same time, they have a more dramatic quality, and are besides relieved with an under-current of humor, which makes the realism true realism. . . . Mr. Garland's art is true art. He shows his men and women laughing and crying, even though you feel sometimes that the laughter is bordering upon tears. In this, his art is often more true than Ibsen's. These six Mississippi Valley stories do something more than amuse one; they are not written for the summer hammock of the morally blind. They are written by a man who is keenly alive to the misery and injustice of society as at present constituted, and they are intended for thinking people. *They compel you to think.* . . . A book that awakens the human, the divine, in you, in these days of *laissez faire* literature, is worth reading. Mr. Garland's book will do this, and in saying this I have said what cannot be said of one book in the tens of thousands that weigh down the book stalls. It is a book to read and think about. It is a book that will live.—New England Magazine.

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